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From Gambrell Era To Kelly, Board Advances

By Don McGregor

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board was established in 1885; and J. B. Gambrell, the first editor of *The Baptist Record*, was also the first secretary of the Convention Board. He handled both jobs at the same time. Several years before, however, in 1874, Baptists in Mississippi had become determined to do something about "the destitution and heathenism present before us" and had established a State Mission Board. A young man named T. J. Walne was named as corresponding secretary, and headquarters were set up in Hazlehurst. Walne led the state into organized mission activities for the first time. He resigned in 1883, and Lewis Ball was elected his successor. Ball served until 1885.

The State Mission Board was just one of several boards in operation in Mississippi Baptist life at that time, however, and efforts were fractured. It was W. H. Hardy, the pioneer Mississippi industrialist and six-time president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, who pounded home the idea that the state needed only one board to be the umbrella for all the mission work in the state. His concept was adopted in 1885, and the existing State Mission Board was merged into the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

During its lifetime the State Mission Board addressed itself especially to work along the Gulf Coast. In 1874 there was not a Baptist preacher along the entire coast and only one Baptist Church. The board appointed John B. Hamberlin as missionary in the Ocean Springs area. He organized five churches in his first year. Hamberlin worked 5½ years. During that time eight churches were started and the Gulf Coast Baptist Association was organized.

Hamberlin's impressions of the Gulf Coast are to be found in this issue.

By 1875 the State Mission Board was also giving its attention to needs in "The Bottoms," the Mississippi delta area. This was described as a "veritable Sodom, where whiskey drinking, gambling, and Sabbath-breaking were common and prevailing sins of the country."

Ball got his training there.

The State Mission Board prepared

the foundation upon which the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board was built.

Gambrell had been a supporter of the new organization from its conception. He was editor of *The Baptist Record* from 1877 until 1891, and he was also the first corresponding secretary of the new board for two years. He resigned in 1887, and John Tyler Christian

was elected to take his place. Christian had been pastor of First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tenn. He served for six years and was followed by Abner Vernon Rowe.

Rowe served for 21 years, but his first four years experienced a continuation of controversies that had begun earlier. The new board continued the work of the State Mission Board and

took on other new responsibilities that brought with them problems. One such was assuming debts of churches in financial difficulty.

Controversies arose over whether or not to move Mississippi College from Clinton to Meridian and over the baptism views of M. T. Martin of Mississippi and Southern Seminary President William H. Whitsitt.

When Rowe retired in 1914 it was said of him, "His patient toil, watchfulness of the interest of Mississippi Baptists, vigilance in the cause of the Kingdom of God and wisdom in the administration of the affairs of that Kingdom have placed the work of Mississippi Baptists on a surer foundation."

His tenure was one of gradual improvement in the organization of Baptist work. In 1911 the Convention Board was reorganized with increased authority. Its membership was increased from the original 15 to 27, and it was instructed to provide a permanent organization to carry on the oversight of all convention work and to distribute the funds collected. The board was authorized to elect and pay its officers.

In 1914 it was proposed that convention programs be printed before the convention so that messengers would

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Mississippi's first Baptist Building was this structure located on the corner of Capitol and President in downtown Jackson.

Aberdeen Convention Approves New Board

Aberdeen, July 28, 1885—A "Mississippi Baptist Convention Board" was established during the annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, held in First Baptist Church here last week. The approval of the new board took place on July 25.

The Board was formed when the convention gave approval to the report of a committee which had been studying "a more perfect organization" for the past two years. When the report was first presented on Friday, it was tabled after lengthy discussion. However, on Saturday, the matter was brought from the table, and after further discussion, was adopted.

The Board will consist of fifteen members, nine of whom must live at or near the city where the agency is domiciled.

This new agency of the state convention, brings or will attempt to bring unity out of the chaos which has existed in the promotion of state missions and other phases of convention work for the past several years.

The problem has been caused, according to leaders, because a number of agencies have been in the field at the same time, each seeking support, and thus have divided the interest and support of the churches.

Prior to 1873 there had developed

five "boards" working under the state convention. They were the Board of Foreign Missions, Canton; the Board of Domestic Missions, Ripley; the Sunday School Board, West Point; the Board of Bible and Colportage, Meridian; and the Board of Ministerial Education, Clinton. These did not include the Boards of Trustees of the college and of the orphanage. In 1873 an additional board, the State Mission Board was formed, with headquarters at Hazlehurst. That same year the Foreign Mission Board was dissolved but an "agent" was appointed. The result was that all of the agencies were approaching the churches, each asking for support, and some being more effective in their appeals than others. According to leaders, the result was that no sense of responsibility developed in the churches, so little "missions concern" was felt.

The State Mission Board under the heroic efforts of T. J. Walne from 1873-1883, and then of Lewis Ball from 1883-85, did heroic work and supported numerous missionaries in areas all over the state. Nearly every destitute point in the state was entered by those missionaries during the period. Many new churches were established and the white membership grew from 42,965 in 1871 to 61,197 in 1883. (1885 figure not available.) Nevertheless, there was a lack of unity in the program to accomplish all that really needed to be done.

Seeing this disunity, convention leaders in the early 1880's began to seek a plan for unifying the whole mission and benevolent program of Mississippi Baptists. They knew that this must be done if largest results were to be achieved.

At the convention in Crystal Springs in 1883, President W. H. Hardy, a fine Baptist layman from the eastern part of the state, who had served as president since 1881, in his presidential address, called for the convention to adopt a "unification" plan for doing its work. After the address, J. B. Gambrell, editor of the *Baptist Record* moved that a committee be appointed to consider the president's proposals for a more perfect organization, the committee to report later in the same convention.

The committee did make a report, and its suggestions were essentially the same as those which President Hardy had suggested in his address, with a few additions. While some favored the plan, there was opposition because of a fear of "centralization" and finally the matter was "indefinitely postponed." However, later in the same convention, the committee was asked to continue its work and bring a report at the next convention.

In 1884 at Kosciusko, President Hardy continued to urge the convention to act on the issue. However, the committee, appointed to study the matter for a year, did not bring any definite recommendations, so was continued for another year.

At this convention in Aberdeen this

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State Baptists Have Had 11 Executives During BR History

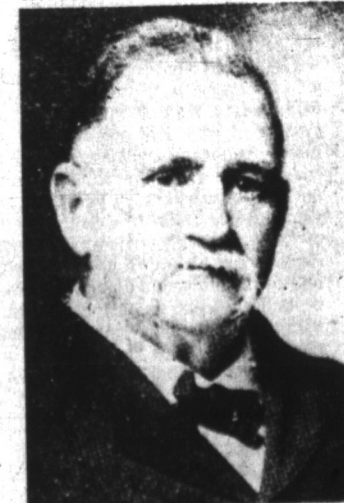
By Anne McWilliams

In 1939, D. A. (Scottie) McCall became the first man to be called executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Before that time, administrative leaders of the Board were known as corresponding secretaries.

A "state missions board" was organized in 1873. Two men were corresponding secretaries of that board before, in 1885, the Convention Board of the Mississippi Baptist Convention was established to coordinate the work of the denomination. In the 92 years that have elapsed since the Convention Board was organized, nine men have served as corresponding secretaries or executive secretaries.

T. J. Walne

1874-1883



In 1874 the Mississippi Baptist State Convention decided to "do something in the direction of giving the gospel to destitute sections of the state." They started a state mission board, located in Oxford, and elected Thomas Jefferson Walne corresponding secretary. Walne chose as the board's motto, "A

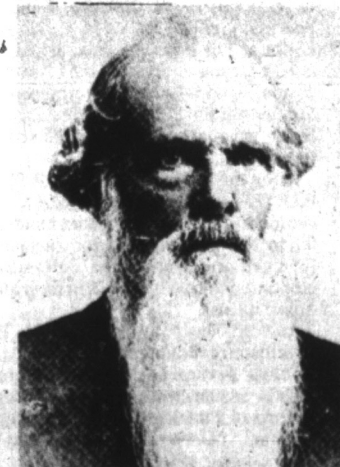
Baptist church and a Baptist Sunday School in every city, town, village, and neighborhood within the territory of this convention."

He was born in Virginia, October 3, 1838, but at ten moved to Canton, Mississippi. (Before he "professed religion" at age 14, he was nicknamed "Rowdy.") Soon after the surrender of Vicksburg he married Belle Tabor of Brownsville. He studied at Mississippi College, and was pastor at Raymond and later at First Church, Vicksburg.

Because of broken health, he resigned in 1883 and moved to Texas. There he taught at Baylor Female College and was pastor at Corsicana. He died in Dallas July 2, 1905.

Lewis Ball

1883-1885



Lewis Ball, missionary to "The Bottoms" and former Colonel in the Confederate Army, was Walne's successor.

Ball was one of four missionaries then in the area between the Yazoo and Mississippi Rivers, described as a "veritable Sodom."

Born in South Carolina in 1820, he had come to Mississippi in 1844. While

his family lived in Blue Mountain he traveled over his mission territory on horseback and in dugouts and preached in school houses, under trees, in homes, around campfires, wherever he could find anyone to listen.

Once while he was corresponding secretary, he had an appointment with the Macon Church. The Macon pastor asked his son to meet the train and bring Brother Ball home. "But, papa, I don't know Brother Ball. How can I bring him home?" The father said, "You go and wait for a man who looks like Moses. That will be Brother Ball." The boy found the right man.

Ball resigned in 1885 to give himself to revival meetings and in 1887 was employed to work among the Negroes of the state, helping to train preachers. He was also pastor for a few years in Clinton.

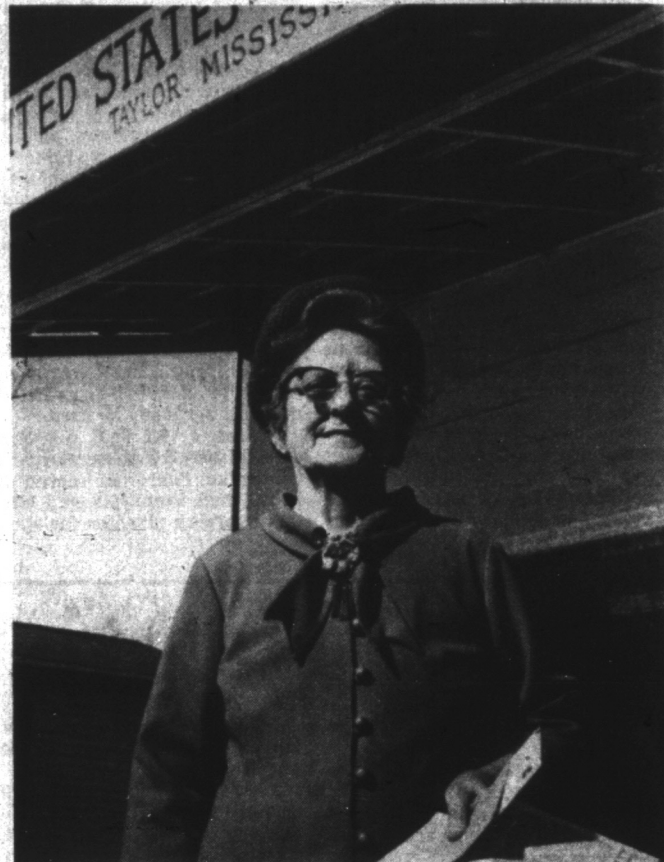
James B. Gambrell

1885-1887



For various reasons, there were administrative problems with the first mission agencies, so the work was

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Long-Time Reader

Mrs. Corrie Mitchell Jones of Taylor knew William Faulkner before he became famous. She also knew *The Baptist Record* in its earlier years. Mrs. Jones, 79, a member of Taylor Baptist Church, is a graduate of what was formerly known as Mississippi Women's College and did graduate work at the University of Mississippi. For 41 years she taught high school, but she's been teaching Sunday School "since I was 13 or 14 years old," she says. She's had *The Baptist Record* in her home as long as she can remember. Her husband was Norwood B. Jones, who died in 1967. She has three children.

Mississippi WMU Is Nearing Age 100

By Marjean Patterson

Almost 10 decades have passed since the organization of woman's work in Mississippi—almost 100 years. It was in May, 1878, at a meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, when Dr. Tupper, Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, was instructed to appoint a Central Committee of ladies in every southern state. The special work of each committee would be "the enlisting of Baptist women in the work of giving the gospel to the heathen."

These women appointed to the First Central Committee in Mississippi did not receive this information until late in the autumn of 1878. The ravages of yellow fever had struck, delaying the communication from Dr. Tupper. The first official work of the committee was the preparation and dissemination of an extensive circular letter, setting forth the object in view and urging the ladies of every church to organize missionary societies.

The first woman's meeting was held at Grenada, during the meeting of the State Convention, November, 1879. In the first report, presented at this meeting, the secretary reported 15 societies contributing \$116.90.

The 1880's were full of changes and growth in Woman's Missionary Union. The year 1885 brought the suggestion of the Foreign Mission Board that the State Convention Board take over the direction of Woman's Work, and 1886 saw the organization of the Sunbeam Bands in the state.

Prayer has always been fundamental in the life of WMU. It was born in earnest, fervent prayer. A special week for the observance of prayer with our Christmas offering for China and another week of prayer in March with self-denial offerings for Home Missions had long been a challenging force in our organized life; but it was not until 1903 that Mississippi set apart a special day to be annually observed in the interest of state missions. It was this special week that in 1935 was named for Margaret Lackey who served as Mississippi WMU Secretary from 1912-1931.

In 1907 an organization was provided for young women and came to be known as Young Woman's Auxiliary. Later, with the urging of Miss Fannie Heck, the Southwide WMU president, missions organizations for boys (Royal Ambassadors) and for girls (Girls' Auxiliary) were begun. The first full-time Young People's Leader, Miss Frances Traylor, was elected in 1915 and took the responsibility of leading the Young People's organizations, YWA, GA, RA, and Sunbeam Band.

The 1940's will be remembered in the following statement: "Woman's Missionary Union has taken a very decisive step by planning definitely toward providing a place for our WMU Camps." Funds were gathered, prayers were answered, and Camp Garaywa, located at Clinton, Missis-

siippi, became a reality in 1947. In the 1970's additional property was purchased to enlarge Garaywa. The camp is used year-round for children's camps, retreats, and conferences.

WMU Special Day—the time which Mississippi Baptist women observe as a special time of prayer and offering for those objects dear to them—was begun in 1951. In 1972, this special offering was named for Edwina Robinson, who served as Young People's Leader from 1933-1945 and was WMU Secretary from 1945-1971. By participating in WMU Special Day, Mississippi Baptist women have an opportunity to give to and be a part of special ministries to people in the state and other parts of the world.

The 1970's brought a change in the grading of WMU and also in the names of the organizations. No longer were

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November 29, 1899

B.Y.P.U. Organized

At 3 p.m. on the 21st of November 1899, a large number of young people and quite a sprinkle of older ones met in the Baptist church at Canton. One half hour was spent in devotional exercises, led by Bro. H. P. Hurt, in which many participated by quoting passages of Scripture. The committee, appointed at Aberdeen to draft a constitution and prepare a program for the present meeting, made its report. The conference went into a permanent B. Y. P. U. State organization, with Arthur Flake, Winona, president; H. E. Wilkinson, Vicksburg, vice president; Laudrum Leavell, Washington, secretary; Lamar Allen, Winona, treasurer. A warm address of welcome was delivered by Bro. E. A. Howell, substitute of Pastor W. J. Derrick, who was to hoarse to speak. A very appropriate response was delivered by Prof. C. Hillman Brough, of Mississippi College. Several fine talks were made in explanation of the B. Y. P. U. organization.

At 7 p.m. the house was filled with eager listeners, to hear the introductory sermon by Bro. G. B. Butler. The sermon from Heb. 3:12-13, was a strong presentation of "The Hardening Power of Sin."

On Wednesday at 8:30 Convention met. One half hour was given to devotional exercises, conducted by Bro. W. E. Ellis.

The speaking of the day was of a fine order: "How to Enlist the Forces in Young People's Work," "Christian Culture Course," "How to Keep a B. Y. P. U. Going," "The B. Y. P. U. a Training School," "The B. Y. P. U. in Country Churches," were discussed in a vigorous and helpful manner.

At 7 the meeting was opened with

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Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

From Gambrell To Kelly, Work Advances

(Continued from page 1)

be informed as to what was to be presented and when it would come up and that convention reports be printed in advance and given to the messengers.

Rowe's successor was J. B. Lawrence, who later became the executive secretary of the Home Mission Board. Lawrence initiated, in 1916, a five-year program aimed at increased financial support.

Baptists began to grow in membership and in the number of churches. The need for enlarging the Convention Board became evident. In 1916 it was decided that every association should have a representative on the board.

In 1918 the convention adopted a budget and apportioned it to the associations and churches. While the churches heretofore had been particularly free of any convention suggestions, they responded to financial quotas almost one hundred percent.

With increased participation came increased problems of maintaining accurate records. Many churches had the same or similar names. Lawrence

suggested that the best way to handle this problem was to organize associations along county lines. This met with favorable response, and the associations began to break up and reorganize.

The work of the Convention Board grew under Lawrence, and so did the staff to handle the work. Increased office space was necessary, and Lawrence and Baptist Record Editor P. I. Lipsey were named as a committee in 1919 to find and to purchase a building. The two had already found their building, at the corner of Capitol and North President streets in Jackson, so all that was left was the note signing. The 50 by 140 foot building, now housing Smith Music Company, was purchased for \$27,500 with a \$2,500 down payment and annual payment of \$2,500. Part of the building was rented so that it would pay for itself.

On Jan. 1, 1922 R. B. Gunter succeeded Lawrence as secretary of the Convention Board. He served until Feb. 1, 1939. From 1919 until 1924 he was publicity director for the 75-

million campaign in Mississippi and was known as one of the ablest financial managers the convention had produced.

The Cooperative Program became the accepted means of financing the total programs of Baptists during

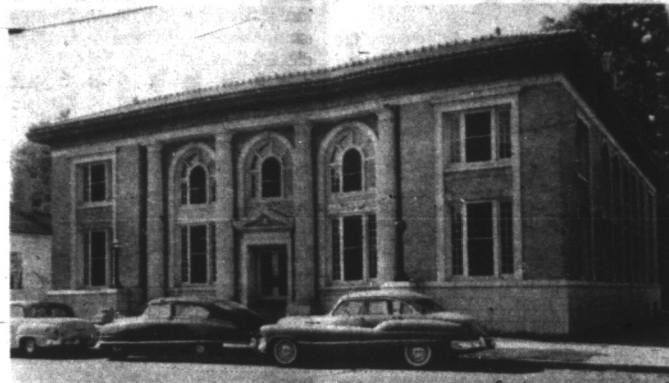
Gunter's tenure, and finances grew as did the number of churches and their members. Total receipts in 1929 were \$447,920. That year there were 1,540 churches gathered in 76 associations with 225,941 members.

Conditions were not to continue to be

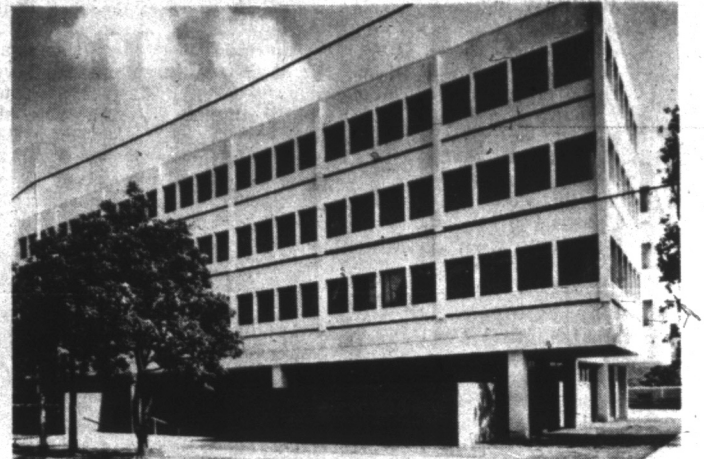
so favorable, however, for the depression of 1929 dealt Baptist work a hard blow in Mississippi. Many debts were assumed by Baptists, and Gunter had

hoped to get them all paid off before he retired. He had faced the most perplexing problems to come before

(Continued on page 10)



The second Baptist Building in Mississippi was this one located on the corner of Mississippi and Congress across the street from the Capitol.



Across Mississippi Street from First Baptist Church in Jackson and angled across the corner from the Capitol is the present Baptist Building.

Since 1877

State Baptists Have Had 11 Executives

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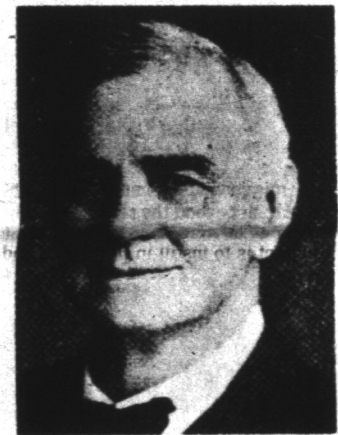
reorganized in 1885, and a convention board was created.

J. B. Gambrell was first secretary of the new board. Headquarters were moved to Jackson.

The story of Gambrell appeared in last week's issue.

John Tyler Christian

1887-1888



When Gambrell resigned in 1887 as corresponding secretary, John Tyler Christian was elected. Christian was a scholar—pastor, professor, historian. Born in Lexington, Kentucky, December 14, 1854, he died in New Orleans December 18, 1925.

With B.A. and M.A. degrees from Bethel College in Kentucky, he made seven trips to Europe for postgraduate work. He held pastorates in Tennessee (including First, Chattanooga); in Kentucky; in Arkansas; and in Mississippi, including First, Hattiesburg, Sardis, Batesville, and others. After two years in Tupelo and Verona, he married Evie Quinn of Clay County, Mississippi.

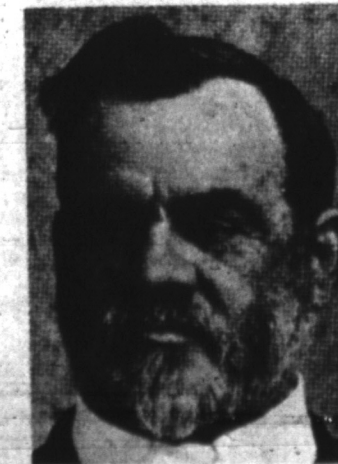
For several years he was mission secretary for Arkansas. He was a member of the special committee to bring the idea of founding a seminary in New Orleans to the attention of the SBC in 1917. Then as professor of Christian history and librarian at Baptist Bible Institute in New Orleans from 1919 to 1925 he traveled repeatedly in Europe and the Near East for study and the collection of books. Later he donated his personal library of over 15,000 volumes to the school.

He aided in financing construction of First Church, Jackson.

When the wear and tear of work as corresponding secretary began to damage his health, he resigned in 1893.

A. V. Rowe

1893-1913



In March, 1893, A. V. Rowe was

elected corresponding secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, a job he was to hold for 21 years.

Rowe was born at Lexington, Miss., on April 28, 1848. In 1866 he began teaching at a school near the Oregon Baptist Church five miles from Lexington. The following summer he joined the Oregon Church, feeling from the time of his conversion that he "was called to preach. Unknown to him, members of the church felt the same way. One day Deacon Jackson got up in church and said that God calls men, and announced that A. V. Rowe was called to preach, he believed, and moved that he be set at liberty. This was to Rowe's surprise! However, that fall he entered Mississippi College where he graduated in 1872.

Later he studied at Southern Seminary. He left the seminary to begin missionary work with H. T. Haddick in Yazoo Association. The two organized the church at Goodman. He married Jannie Daddis of Crystal Springs. They had five children.

His pastorates included West Feliciana, Lexington, Goodman, Durant (twice), Kosciusko, Clinton, Edwards, and Raymond. (In 1883 he was Latin professor at MC.) In the summer of 1885 his family moved with him to Durant where he became principal of Durant High School, as well as pastor of the Durant Church, West Church, Sidon, and Bethel. He was pastor at Winona in 1893 when the Convention Board elected him corresponding secretary. During his tenure as secretary, the Baptist Record was bought by the Convention Board.

In 1905 the state convention sent Rowe as Mississippi's messenger to the first meeting of the Baptist World Alliance, in London, England. He died in Marshall, Texas July 26, 1926.

J. B. Lawrence

1914-1921



John Benjamin Lawrence followed Rowe as Mississippi Baptists' corresponding secretary, returning to his native state from the pastorate of First Church, New Orleans. During the denomination's 75 Million Campaign he led Mississippi to be the first state convention to underwrite its goal. In 1916 and 1917 he was a vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Lawrence was born at Florence in Rankin County, Miss., on July 10, 1871. He graduated from Mississippi College in 1899 and received an M.A. degree there in 1902. He married Helen Alford November 15, 1900. They had six children. After the death of his first wife, he married Helen Huston in 1949.

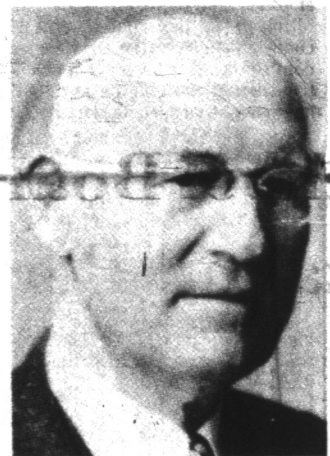
Besides First, New Orleans, his pastorates included Greenwood, Miss.; Brownsville and Humboldt, Tex.; Coliseum Place, New Orleans; and First, Shawnee, Okla. At various times he was executive secretary for the Louisiana Baptist Convention and for the Missouri Baptist Convention. In 1922 he left Mississippi to become president of Oklahoma Baptist University. Lawrence was best known for his

24½ years as executive secretary of the Home Mission Board—from 1929 until 1954. He accepted that post when the agency was near collapse from an indebtedness of \$2,500,000. On May 12, 1943, the Board became free of debt. The expansion of the Home Mission Board's work under Lawrence gave the thrust that would later put Southern Baptist churches in each state of the United States.

He retired in 1954 at the age of 82 but continued writing. He was the author of 23 books. He died in Atlanta, Ga., September 5, 1968.

R. B. Gunter

1921-1939



Richmond Baker Gunter was corresponding secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board from January 1, 1922 to February 1, 1939. During the depression he reduced his salary and sold his home owned by the denomination and applied the proceeds toward the state convention debts. The first state Baptist Building was bought under his leadership.

Born in Leake County, Miss., September 3, 1880, he graduated from MC in 1907 and Southern Seminary in 1912. He married Tyna Amelia Pate of Coffeeville and after her death married Katie South. He taught three years in public schools.

Ordained by Standing Pine Church, he served as pastor at Lena, Walnut Grove, Carthage, Leakesville, Laurel, Louisville, Florence, Pickens, and Briar Hill.

In 1915 he led First Church, Louisville to be the first church in Mississippi to use the percentage division of gifts. He was a member of the Future Program Commission which recommended to the SBC in Memphis in 1925 the adoption of the Cooperative Program. As publicity director for the 75 Million Campaign in Mississippi, 1919-1924, he earned the reputation of a brilliant fund raiser. He died in Jackson, Miss., March 17, 1964.

D. A. McCall

1939-1959



Drue Anselm (Scotchig) McCall

was called from the pastorate of First Church, Philadelphia, Miss., in 1939 to become leader of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the first to be called executive secretary.

Born at Star in Rankin County, Miss., August 8, 1895, he attended Mississippi College, but graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1917 and received a teacher's license. He married Margie Parks of Winona.

While in Southern Seminary he was pastor of Highland Park Church, Louisville. He returned to Mississippi as pastor of Lynn Church which then led the state in per capita gifts to missions for four years. During his ministry at Griffin Memorial, Jackson, a new building was erected.

While he was executive secretary, all state denominational debts were paid off (1945), and the Baptist Building at Congress and Mississippi was bought. Controversy during the last years of his service led to his resignation February 28, 1950. He then became pastor of Tabernacle Church, Chicago. He died in Chicago June 16, 1959.

Chester Quarles

1950-1968



In March, 1950, the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board chose Chester Quarles as executive secretary, a position he held until his death in Cuzco, Peru, July 6, 1968. During his tenure the board greatly expanded its ministry. The Cooperative Program receipts increased from \$802,918 in 1950 to \$3,670,491 in 1968. Two state assemblies, Kittiwake and Gulfshore, were bought, and a new Baptist Building planned and erected.

Born at Wiggins, Miss., May 18, 1906, he was stricken with polio as a child and carried a withered arm for the rest of his life. At 16 he decided to enter the ministry. He graduated from Howard College (now Samford) in Birmingham, Alabama.

During student days at Southern Seminary he was education and youth director for Broadway Church, Louisville. After graduation from seminary he accepted the pastorate at Newton, Alabama. He married Virginia Cooper of Tylertown, Miss., and they had three children.

Other pastorates included First, Leeland, Miss., and First, Sylacauga, Ala. From 1940 to 1942 he worked in Nashville in the Training Union Department of the Sunday School Board.

Quarles was first vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1958. He died on a mission trip to South America.

Douglas Hudgins

1969-1973

When Chester Quarles died in July of 1968, W. Douglas Hudgins, pastor of

First Church, Jackson, and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Convention Board, was asked immediately to serve as "acting secretary." He took full responsibility for the office in February, 1969, and served until his retirement in 1973.

Hudgins was born in Estill Springs, Tennessee, May 4, 1905. His father, Will Hudgins, was Tennessee Baptists' first Sunday School secretary. He graduated from Carson-Newman in 1926, the year after he was ordained to the ministry. At Southern Seminary he earned the Th.M. degree and had almost completed requirements for a doctorate when he was called to Broadway Church, Fort Worth. Other pastorates were at First Church, Houston, Texas; First, Jackson (23 years); Radnor Church, Nashville; and several other churches in Tennessee.

He married Blanche Jones of Knoxville, and they have three sons.

He was chairman of the Building Committee that supervised the erection of a new Baptist Building and directed the first fund raising campaign for Gulfshore Baptist Assembly. He has served as a vice-president of the SBC, and 15 years on the Executive Committee, SBC. He was president of the Foreign Mission Board, SBC, 1973-1974.

B.Y.P.U. Organized

(Continued from page 1)

appropriate devotional exercises conducted by H. P. Hurt; and at 7:30, Dr. E. E. Chivers, of Chicago, General Secretary of the B. Y. P. U. A. and editor of *The Baptist Union*, delivered a very strong address on the "Nature, Scope, Underlying Principles and Methods of the B. Y. P. U. Work." The house was packed and a grand stride forward was made.

After the address the editor of *THE BAPTIST* was requested to take a collection to defray the expenses incidental to the meeting and for carrying forward the work. The collection amounted to nearly \$150.00 in cash and subscriptions.

At 8:30 Thursday morning, H. E. Wilkinson conducted a B. Y. P. U. Meeting, several participating. Vigorous discussions were had on the "Best Method of Pushing Our Work in Mississippi," "Denominational Loyalty" and "Consecration Meetings."

Pastor Derrick and his faithful collaborators having made a heroic fight against the liquor traffic in Canton, were unanimously endorsed and encouraged to continue the war against the "matchless evil" to a finish. The Convention by special resolution endorsed and commended *THE BAPTIST* to all Unions. Appreciation was expressed to *THE BAPTIST* for hav-

ing opened up a B. Y. P. U. Department in its columns.

Ordering 1,000 copies of the Proceedings published, the first session of the B. Y. P. U. State organization adjourned to meet at Clinton on Friday before the 5th Lord's day in Oct. 1900.

Thus ended what is conceded by all who were present, to have been a very fine meeting. We trust this was the beginning of what will soon become a mighty factor in our church work. We shall appreciate any news items from our young workers. A word to the young people. In the fresh enthusiasm of this promising beginning, do not forget to consult daily the word of God, and to meditate much upon His precepts. Fellowship and companionship with our Lord are our only safety and guaranty of growth "in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

Aberdeen

(Continued from page 1)

week, the committee brought a report, recommending a new board, which would unify the state convention's program. After much discussion, both pro and con, the matter was tabled, but the next day was brought up again, and this time it passed.

HMB "Cutting The Mustard," Claims Mission Strategist

By Catherine Allen

BIRMINGHAM (BP) — The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board is the only United States missions agency that is "cutting the mustard," a leading mission strategist told a meeting of state Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) leaders and the Southern Baptist WMU Executive Board here.

"There is no team of missionaries in the world doing a better job reaching non-Christians," said Ralph D. Winter, a former Presbyterian missionary who just resigned from the faculty of Fuller Theological Seminary.

He praised the missions division of the Home Mission Board for reaching persons with no Christian background and for starting churches in the language and cultural context of racial and ethnic groups.

"While everybody else was quibbling, your Home Mission Board has been doing the job," said Winter, now

acting director of the World Mission Center, Pasadena, Calif. "Acceptance of diversity is the hallmark of their strategy."

Winter said that other denominations' home boards of missions have made the "fatal mistake" of trying to make all their churches English speaking, true-blue American. The Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) now has approximately 2,200 congregations that speak a language other than English, thanks to the efforts of home missions, he said.

"Here you have churches who worship apart on Sunday but who have fellowship through your conventions and associations," Winter said. "All the tribes and tongues of Heaven will not be English," he warned.

Winter criticized mission strategy that depends on one language and that lingers too long on nurture of Christians. "Ninety-five percent of missionaries in the world are working with

national Christians," he said.

He noted that this is due to the fantastic success of missions, but said that more missionaries need to move on to give primary attention to the masses of non-Christians not yet reached.

Although Southern Baptist is the nation's largest Protestant body and already have the largest evangelical group of missionaries and have suffered no cutbacks in mission support, Winter urged them to do better. He suggested that the SBC field more short-term mission workers, train members to be missionaries while they are tourists, and enlist Baptist business people abroad as aides in mission efforts.

Citing missions education as a key to reaching the masses with Christianity, Winter urged that missions be taught to new converts on mission fields.

"There may soon come a time when it will not be legal for money to go overseas for missions," Winter pointed out. "All foreign exchange will have to go for oil. We must begin now to operate self-sustaining programs overseas. We need to double what we are doing."

Pointing out 1,000 subcultures untouched by Christianity in India alone, Winter said, "Some barriers will never be crossed by backfence evangelism."

Winter urged WMU to continue its exclusive identity as a women's organization and as a missions education organization. "WMU should be the key agency in helping people gain a perspective of the world as God sees it," he said.

"Women are the key to more missions money," he said, pointing out that women can set a simple family lifestyle that will free money for missions.

"The worst thing that could happen would be for you to be renamed the Southern Baptist Women's Union, leaving missions out," he said. "You must not rest until every country has its own WMU to keep missions at the heart and soul of its work."

"The most crucial differences in missions took place between 1865 and 1920 because of the increased role of women," Winter said. "Today women are leaving missions — except you."

How I pray that you will continue to set an example," he told WMU leaders.

William O'Brien, secretary of the department of denominational coordination for the SBC Foreign Mission Board, responded to Winter. "We're not getting the job done domestically or overseas," O'Brien said. He predicted that Southern Baptists would rise to the challenge in its upcoming Bold Mission emphasis to proclaim Christ to the "fourth world" — lost people wherever they are found. "Missions education must be intensified to levels we have not dreamed of," O'Brien said.

O'Brien pointed out that the impetus for missions is now coming from former mission fields as a result of foreign missions attempts to develop indigenous churches. He noted however, that "an indigenous church per se can become a stumbling block if it turns in upon itself."

"We honor national conventions and try to work with them in a catalytic way," he said, and lodged a plea for more people to volunteer as "preacher-type" missionaries.

Wendell Belew, director of the Home Mission Board division Winter praised, predicted that in 50 years vast mission fields may appear in the southern US because of huge migration to the Sunbelt. Belew acknowledged that the SBC is probably the most pluralistic denomination. "I'm not sure we are ready to realize that."

Belew told WMU leaders that they are mission strategists and that their churches are keys to mission strategy. "You don't demand enough of your churches and your mission boards. You should be testing new mission strategies in your mission action work," he said.

He insisted that the SBC is at a crucial point in its missions philosophy. "Can we survive being the largest evangelical denomination in the US?" he asked. "We are nearly a state church. How will we use our power as the majority? People will never hear our gospel unless we live with them and hurt with them."

Belew said that churches must become indigenous to their own changing communities. "Every church is a transitional church," he said, but we have sought only people like ourselves.



Mr. and Mrs. Al Whitehead of Jackson set up their multi-media presentation on Montana churches and missions.

Couple Offers Montana Missions Presentation

A Jackson couple has offered their services to promote Montana work through a multi-media presentation of color slides and taped narration in churches within a two-hour drive of Jackson.

They are Mr. and Mrs. Al Whitehead of 899 Briarwood Drive, Jackson 39211. The Whiteheads were in Montana in June of last year on a vacation. They visited 12 Southern Baptist churches and missions, taking slides as they went.

The Whiteheads' presentation consists of 220 slides shown two at a time on two 50 by 50 foot screens. Generally, the scenes on the two screens are of the same subject from different angles.

The taped narration that goes along

with the slide presentation uses the voices of both of them in an alternating fashion.

The Mississippi Convention has adopted the churches in Montana, and several Mississippi churches are actively supporting churches there. A number of Mississippians are pastors of Montana churches.

A church that is interested in having this Montana presentation can write the Whiteheads or call them in Jackson at 956-4768. They are members of Woodland Hills Baptist Church in Jackson.

There is no charge for their presentation. It would be possible to tie the presentation to an Annie Armstrong Easter Offering emphasis.

Studiact Queens' Court Planned For March 11-13

"His World... Our World" is the theme for the 1977 Queens' Court, March 11-13, for all Acteens involved in Studiact. The annual meeting is sponsored by Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union and is held at Camp Garaywa near Clinton.

Studiact is the individual achieve-

ment plan for Acteens which encompasses 7th-12th grades. This plan includes four levels of achievement: queen, queen with a scepter, queen regent and queen regent in service. Service aide is an additional level for older Acteens. Activities in each level give an Acteen the opportunity to participate in mission study, mission action, mission support and mission organization beyond the regular weekly meetings of Acteens. The purpose of Studiact is to instill in the hearts and lives of Acteens a deeper love for missions.

Program personnel for this week-end will focus on how an Acteen can live her life in a world in which God has placed her.

Special features of the program include Bible study, spotlights on Mississippi Acteens, "idea shoppe", and rap sessions with home and foreign missionaries.

The banquet Saturday evening will carry the theme, "Patches of Joy", with Frances (Mrs. Robert) Smira, state WMU president being the mistress of ceremony.

Those persons featured on the program are Charles and Indy Whitten, missionaries, Spain; Mrs. S. O. Pitts, Acteens leader, Houston, Texas; David and Brenda Myers, missionaries, Mississippi; Miss Paula Smith, student, William Carey; Rodney and Susie Webb, missionaries, Mississippi. More than 200 acteens will be bringing their leaders for this week-end of inspiration, fun and fellowship.

The Queens' Court program will begin with registration at 5:00 p.m. in the reception room of the main auditorium at Garaywa and conclude Sunday at 10:45 a.m.

Publicity and registration information have been mailed to all associational and local Acteens leadership. The pre-registration fee is \$5.00 and the balance of \$10.00 to be paid upon arrival at Garaywa. For additional information write Mississippi WMU, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Mississippi 39205.

WMU Boosts Mission Education Efforts

BIRMINGHAM (BP) — The Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) will publish "TransCom" teaching materials for churches in transitional communities for the next two years, have full-scale Baptist Young Women organizations on college campuses in 1979, and will continue upgrading missions education through 1978-79.

These and other plans affecting local WMU operations highlighted the annual meeting for promotion of the national WMU Executive Board of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) here.

The board also voted to build a five-story extension to the national WMU office building in Birmingham. The expansion will enclose a triangle of WMU property that will soon be walled off by a proposed high-rise office building. Cost of the new WMU construction is not to exceed \$500,000.

State and national WMU leaders took the wraps off the first wave of TransCom publications which will be sold through Baptist Book Stores beginning April 1. TransCom materials are designed to help mission action groups teach children who have had no Christian background. The materials are geared for weekday ministries, especially in churches in transitional communities.

Publications will include a teacher's book, a set of pupils' take-home leaflets, and a teacher's resource kit. They will be issued quarterly. Approaches are simplified for use by untrained teachers. The first year's lessons identify Jesus and explain his life and work. The WMU board voted to proceed with a second year's installment of the publications for 1978-79.

WMU also approved its "Dated Plan" for 1978-79. The 600-page document includes lesson and activity

plans for all facets of WMU. The plans include a major emphasis on Baptist Women, the adult division of WMU. All activities continue upgrading of WMU's efforts in teaching missions. Plans call for a regular take-home publication for Mission Friends (preschool boys and girls) to be issued in 1978-79.

Basic program design for campus Baptist Young Women operations was approved. Plans will be field tested on selected college campuses beginning immediately. Manuals and other publications will be in circulation by the spring of 1979.

The board adopted objectives for national WMU operations. These will be the basic of long-range planning to be begun this spring.

Aside from decision making, WMU leaders heard reports from missions leaders and an address by SBC President James L. Sullivan.

Baker J. Cauthen, executive director of the SBC Foreign Mission Board, outlined recent allocations from the 1976 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions and presented lengthy allocations for operating expenses that will be met by the 1977 offering.

William L. Tanner, new executive director-treasurer of the SBC Home Mission Board, presented WMU with 10 art treasures representing home missions work among Indians. The gifts will be displayed in the WMU building in Birmingham.

The women heard a discussion of mission strategy by Ralph Winter, former Fuller Theological Seminary professor; Wendell Belew, director of the missions division of the Home Mission Board; and William O'Brien, secretary of the department of denominational coordination of the Foreign Mission Board.

Baptists Rush Relief To Jobless Migrants

ATLANTA (BP) — The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board here has wired \$10,000 to the Florida Baptist Convention to provide food and blankets for migrant workers made jobless by the freeze in Florida which has destroyed crops.

The money will be supplemented by \$5,000 in Florida disaster relief funds requested by Harold C. Bennett, the Florida convention's executive secretary-treasurer, pending final approval by the convention's administrative committee.

The funds are the first disaster relief expenditures for the Home Mission Board's Christian social ministries department in 1977. (Relief funds in 1976 totaled \$55,500, including \$20,000 for the Teton Dam disaster.)

Baptist churches in the Fort Myers area have already gathered three tons of food to help in the effort.

According to Russell Kaufman, director of migrant ministries for Florida Baptists, the plight of the migrant workers depends on the "quickness of government agencies and how well adjustments in living arrangements can be made."

"Already there have been threats of evictions," Kaufman reports, "but we are working with other agencies to waylay this."

Kaufman has begun sifting limited funds down through associations and churches to the hardest hit areas. These include the Dade County, Miami, Fort Myers and Immokalee-Royal Palm Associations.

"The basis of the need is for food and warmth," he says.

Kaufman foresees that the worst time is ahead. "The fruit still on the trees is picked."

"Growers who have decided to replant will need migrant workers for the replanting," he says, but notes that

most experts agree that in the migrants will begin to face the problem of little work.

"We hope to head off some problems by preparing ahead," he says. "If the government declares Florida a national disaster area, then we won't have as big a burden."

Kaufman expects to use the funds to assist local churches and associations in their relief efforts: "There may be temporary assistance with utilities or occasional assistance for a short period with rent, but the churches will be the first line of providing help."

Funneling the funds through the churches also helps keep the people involved, he says.

MBMC Celebrates First Anniversary of Moving

Personnel of the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center marked the end of their first year in their new building February 1 with a prayer service in the medical center's chapel.

On the same date in 1976, all patients (180 in all) were transferred from the old building to the new one without a mishap, most of them moving by wheelchair through a tunnel under North State street, recalled MBMC Executive Director Paul J. Pryor following the prayer service.

Zach T. Hederman, president of the MBMC Board of Trustees, expressed the board's appreciation to everyone involved in the transfer and in the first year in the new \$35 million building.

Dr. Lucien R. Hodges, president of the MBMC medical staff, said medical staffers "feel we've got the best there

is going" in the one-year-old, 600 bed medical center.

Earl Kelly, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board said excellence is the goal of all connected with the medical center.

The first-anniversary prayer service was conducted by Gordon Shamburger, MBMC chaplain, who emphasized the hospital's role as a Christian institution.

Assisting Chaplain Shamburger were Willis A. Brown and Derral J. Foreman, who recently joined the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center as assistant chaplains.

Those who participated in the first-anniversary prayer service assembled for lunch in the medical-center dining area immediately following the service.

Sunday School Board Approves Reorganization Personnel

NASHVILLE (BP) — Trustees of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in their semiannual meeting here reorganized the church services and materials division into three divisions and elected several new executive management personnel.

The three new divisions include a Bible teaching division, a Christian development division and a church and staff support division.

Trustees elected James W. Clark as executive vice president of the Sunday School Board; Dessel Aderholt, Robert G. Fulbright, and Howard Foshee to head the Broadman, Bible teaching and Christian development divisions respectively; Lloyd T. Householder as director of the board's office of communications; and David P. Turner and Andy Dodson to department manager posts. All are current Sunday School Board employees.

Included in the Bible teaching division will be the Sunday School department, a projected radio-TV bible correspondence department and an art department.

The Christian development division will include the church training department, family ministry department, National Student Ministries, and an art section.

The church and staff support division will be composed of the church administration department, church music department, church library department, church recreation department, church architecture depart-

ment and an art section. The directorship of the division will be filled later.

Clark, 45, director of the board's Broadman division since 1971, has served as interim executive vice president since W. O. Thomason's resignation last November. A native of Texas, he is a graduate of Wayland Baptist College, with graduate work at North Texas State College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He began work with the Sunday School Board in 1954, and since that time has served as a Broadman Press salesman, trade sales supervisor, manager of the Broadman sales department and then manager of the church literature department.

Aderholt, 47, elected to succeed Clark as director of the Broadman division, general publishing arm of the Southern Baptist Convention, has served as manager of the Broadman marketing services department since 1962. A native of Alabama, Aderholt first came to the board in 1959.

Fulbright, 42, has been manager of the Broadman products department for the past year and a half. Earlier he served as supervisor of the children's, preschool/children's and children's field services sections at the board.

'Project Look-Up' Target Moved To The Caribbean

RICHMOND (BP) — "Project Look-Up" will begin airing experimental community service programs prepared by Christian broadcasters, probably sometime in February.

The programs will be beamed by satellite to Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands, however, instead of Colombia and Ecuador as earlier planned.

Due to the necessity for immediate clearance to get the programs into the countries by February, the group decided to go ahead with plans to air programs in these islands since they are U. S. protectorates," said Fred T. Laughon, special assistant to Paul M. Stevens, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth.

Persons from 48 Christian organizations, including the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission

Board, and Radio and Television Commission, asked the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) if they could use the satellite, ATS-6, for programming in 1977.

Since the project is experimental, NASA agreed.

The satellite has recently been in operation over India. It beams instructional television programs to parts of India where they are received and transmitted to television sets centrally located in 2,400 villages.

Last year, the satellite was over the United States, where it was used for medical and educational purposes in Alaska and southwestern states. The year before it aided school teachers in the Appalachian region.

Now it will be situated where it can beam programs to the Caribbean and Latin American countries.

"Now we're just waiting for them to tell us which band we can broadcast on and hopefully we'll be ready to beam two hours of programs every night to this Caribbean area," Laughon commented.

Tentatively the broadcasts will be between 7 and 9 p.m. each evening. According to Laughon, the programs will be aired from NASA's "Up-Link" stations in North Carolina and Texas. The availability of the station in Texas allows the group to broadcast programs seven days a week, since the North Carolina station is closed Saturday and Sunday.

"All of this is brand new to us," Laughon explained. "We're still not on the air yet and we can't anticipate all the problems that might arise. But, little by little, the good Lord is piecing things together for us."

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

The Second of Four

This issue of the Baptist Record is the second in the series of four issues dealing with the centennial observation of the paper. The first issue dealt primarily with the paper itself. This issue concerns itself for the most part with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The third issue next week will present a number of great stories from out of the past during the early days of the Baptist Record. The final issue of the centennial series will deal mostly with the institutions of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Once again, it must be said that it is a real thrill for those of us at the Baptist

Record to be a part of its ministry during this observation of its centennial. We are so busy getting everything done that we don't have time to let the real impact of such a celebration soak into our consciousness. It is hard for our finite minds to fully understand just what all such an accomplishment means as 100 years of such meaningful service in the Lord's work.

We are enjoying it, however. We want to express our thanks to our friends who have expressed their congratulations on this anniversary through advertisements in the paper. These will be spaced out with some in

each of the four anniversary issues. Our thanks, too, to Jack Hamm for his especially prepared cartoon.

Each issue will be concerned primarily with anniversary material, but in each case there will be room reserved to print the current news that needs to be presented.

Our thanks to Mississippi Baptists for this opportunity of service. Now that we are two weeks into our second century, we must express again the hope that we will be found faithful and will get our century off to as fine a beginning as did those forebears 100 years ago.

Race Relations Sunday

Sunday, Feb. 13, is Race Relations Sunday. It is a date observed throughout the Southern Baptist Convention and should not go unnoticed.

Many words will be written and spoken on the subject before and during that day. Not all will speak or write from the same viewpoint nor use the same lines of approach through all may be seeking to promote good race relations.

How does one go about promoting good race relations? This paper is as interested in good and wholesome relations between races as any other. Is not good relationships between races a

matter that must be settled in individual hearts? Our relationships with other races is dealt with on an individual basis. We have no relationships with any entire race. We have relationships with individuals in some races, but not nearly all races.

We must determine in our own hearts what our response and attitude will be toward every individual with whom we come in contact. We should want to make this response and attitude Christian in their nature. This Christian response should be exhibited toward those of other races as well as our own. Race should not be a factor in

our determination of responses and attitudes.

A great deal of fine material has been written or otherwise prepared concerning race relations Sunday. To a large extent it deals with relationships between the black and white races. In contemplating our attitudes toward race relations, we must consider that there are races other than black and white.

And though our own attitudes are personal matters, surely our imaginations can provide areas of group approach to the betterment of relationships between all races.

Again, Farewell And Welcome

Not long ago lines in this space were used to bid farewell to our next door neighbor at the Baptist Building. He is Carey Cox, who retired Dec. 31 as executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation.

Now we have said goodbye to the occupant of the office farthest from the Baptist Record. He is Elmer Howell, who retired Jan. 31 as director of the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Our office is in the northeast corner of the second floor. His was in the southwest corner of the top floor, the fourth.

In spite of the distance between offices, he was counted as a very dear friend. It seems that without exception the occupants of the Baptist Building accepted the new editor into the fellowship of the building when he arrived on the scene more than two years

ago as the replacement for retiring Associate Editor Joe Abrams. Elmer Howell was certainly one of those who was quick to make the new man feel at home and to assure him of a welcome in Baptist Building fellowship.

It didn't take one long to notice that this easy atmosphere of friendliness was a part of the nature of the Brotherhood director, and he was at home with men throughout the state and far beyond.

Continually, we hate to see these dear people leave our area of endeavor, but continually there is someone else just as friendly and just as capable who can move right into the vacated position.

Such was the case with the Brotherhood Department when Paul Harrell, the highly regarded consultant, was named the director. The work will move on without breaking stride, and

Paul is already well known and greatly admired for his work in the department during the past several years.

As for Elmer, who's to pity him for having reached retirement time? He's gone to that spread (that may be a Texas word) down in Walthall County with those white face cattle and those pecan trees. A touch of envy, maybe, but not pity. It sounds fantastic.

He got his shirt of fancy embroidery and patches from the ladies of the Baptist Building just as Carey Cox did. Elmer's was presented during a farewell party that included saying goodbye also to Mrs. Nan Grantham of the Music Department and Mrs. Barbara Taylor of the WMU. Nan returns to work in her own church, Broadmoor; and Barbara moves to a new home on acreage just outside Crystal Springs.

From A Former Editor

"Retrospect"

By J. B. Gambrell, Jan. 24, 1984

With this issue we close Volume VII of the Record, seven years of very hard work have passed since the writer entered upon the untold task of editing a paper. It may be both pleasing and instructive to glance back over the past.

This paper was called into existence by the Convention for a purpose. Not simply to have a paper, but to accomplish a work. The writer, was chosen to be editor, we suppose, because of his well known sympathy with the purposes of the Convention.

We wish to say that the foundation of whatever success has been achieved by this paper, in our judgment, was laid by Bro. Lowrey, as editor of the Mississippi Department of the Tennessee Baptists. His unflinching devotion to Mississippi institutions and his conservatism, were a breakwater against radicalism, which has desolated the Southwest for many weary years. General Lowrey lived over the most dangerous period in our history, and it

gives us great pleasure to make mention of his services in this connection.

When we entered upon the duties of editing this paper, the whole Southwest was under the influence of a leadership, which, by the extreme measures, personal controversies and visionary schemes had well nigh destroyed, not only almost every Baptist enterprise in the area of its blighting influence, but had largely destroyed the confidence of the brotherhood in each other, and in the success of Baptist enterprises.

The tendency was to create distrust of our general Boards by crying centralization, church independence, etc. One denominational enterprise after another had gone down, carrying with them tens of thousands of Baptist money, which did no one but the managers any good. The whole territory was a battlefield. The world, the flesh, and the devil had a share but, mainly, the brethren took the brunt of the battle.

George D. Printice, in describing Brownlow, said, "He can not even pray without calling on the Almighty to take notice what a set of rascals the Baptists are." We had a school of writers who never set up their institutions or doctrines on merit alone but always by opposing somebody else. Every discussion must end in a personal attack. No man's character was high enough to shield him from the most violent attacks, if he stood in the way. The leading paper in this region was from years in to years end full of personal wars. This school of writers, then dominant, used their brethren as chopping blocks. Church difficulties were dragged before the public, and the blood of the denomination constantly stirred by these unseemly personal strifes. The tendency for a long time was to train pugilist, rather than a company of workers. Fighting, not building was the order of the day. Then there were questions, and no end to them, questions of no practical importance, magnified into large proportions. These were constantly gender-

ing strife, rather than godly edifying. We started out with a distinct purpose to bring the denominations, as far as in us lay, to a different way of thinking and acting. The spirit of distrust of our Boards, we have smitten with all our power, and on every available occasion.

We have believed that no great thing could be done by the Baptists of the Southwest until this evil spirit, which had put us behind all other sections, was cast out. Personal attacks on the character of the brethren, we have deprecated, and when brethren have sought to use these columns for such purposes, their communications have been subjected to the purifying power of a baptism in fire. The belittling business of discussing little, curious questions, we have rated very low; and on the other hand, we have sought to bring to the front the great and living questions of judgment, truth and righteousness.

The new doctrines we have thought to be most excellent to let alone. Some good brethren have thought we ought to walk off to new positions in new shoes, but we have not seen the good of any of it. The old positions are better. "What is new is not true, and what is true is not new," is an old Baptist saying, and we believe it, so far as it relates to doctrines.

The seven years just passed have been constructive years. Our State Mission work, the College and the Convention work were generally misunderstood.

Under many difficulties the construction has gone forward, till today we have one of the most unified States in the South. Confidence reigns among the brethren. The development has been no less striking. The directions of the denomination have been changed, so much so, that the man who can tell us how to build a school or send the gospel to Africa, is much more in demand than one who has something about Melchizedek. Moreover extreme men can no longer direct affairs in Mississippi, or even influence them.

Letters To The Editor

Oldest RA

Dear Editor:

The Brotherhood Commission is trying to locate the oldest former Royal Ambassador in the State of Mississippi. If any of your readers thinks he might be, or knows of someone who might be the oldest R. A. in the State, we should appreciate his contacting the Brotherhood Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, 39205.

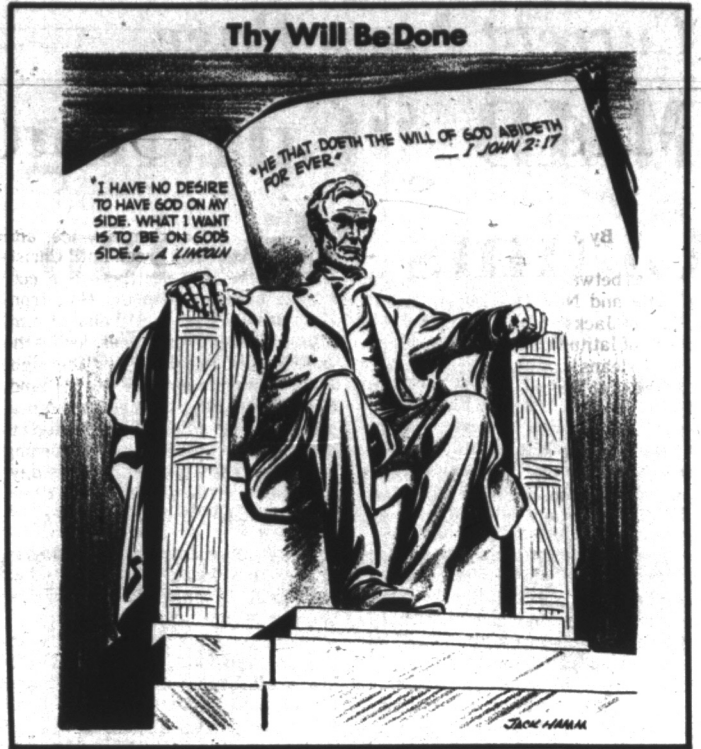
The WMU "christened the Order of Royal Ambassadors in 1908," so no doubt we have a number of elderly former Royal Ambassadors somewhere in Mississippi. We look forward to hearing from some of these.

Paul Harrell
Brotherhood Department

Mature Living

Dear Sir:

I have just seen the table of contents of the first three issues of a new monthly magazine, *Mature Living*, which will begin circulation in April of this year. If the articles measure up to the titles and the projected content, this will be the most exciting leisure magazine published by the Sunday



School Board for any group.

In addition to pertinent articles there are features dealing not only with advice but with practical tips on "how to..." which will help older adults to greater fulfillment.

John Steen, a Mississippian, is

editor and Horace Kerr, another Mississippian, is supervisor of the section at the Sunday School Board responsible for the publication of this magazine.

Kermit S. King
Director, Church Training Department

Interest In The Legislature

Humphreys and Washington Counties introduced a similar bill in the Senate.

Still in committee early this week was House Bill 830 which would make lawful the advertising of alcoholic beverages and "require manufacturers or brokers to register and pay a fee to advertise alcoholic beverages." This would repeal a part of the Mississippi Code of 1972, which prohibits the advertising of liquors.

House Bill 830, introduced by Rep. James Simpson of Harrison County, would make lawful the advertisement of alcoholic beverages in any class of media, including billboards.

A companion bill in the Senate is Senate Bill 2071. This bill was introduced by Sen. Dyer.

These proposed pieces of legislation would affect the lives of all of us in one way or another if they are finally passed and signed into law. Now is the time to contact representatives and senators to help them in their consideration of these matters. There is not much time. This is a short session of the Legislature, and legislation will move fast during the time that is left.

Our entire political system is built on the election of representatives to carry out the will of the people. These representatives must be informed in order to be able to act with intelli-

gence. Let us not delay at all. One day of waiting might be too much time.

The Voting Record

YEA-86; NAY-32; ABSENT-4.
Voting "Yes": Abraham; Anderson, R. G. (31st); Anderson, R. E. (32nd); Atkinson; Balford; Benjamin; Blessey; Also, Brooks; Brown; Bryan; Buchanan; Buckley; Burkes; Canon; Also, Case; Chambliss; Clark, R. O. (2nd); Compretta; Cook; Cossar; Cross; Also, Disharoon; Dollar; Doney; Edwards; Endris; Ferguson; Footshee; And, Fortenberry; Glibbreath; Goliott; Gordon; Grist; Halbrook; Hall; Also, Harnd; Hagens; Haynes; Hendry; Hollinger; Hollingsworth; Holmes, C. (38th); And, Horne; Huggins; Hughes; Johnson, J. E. (4th); Johnson, L. C. (28th); Jolly; Kilpatrick; Also, Levi; Lippian; Livingston; Lynn; Mabry; McCalla; McDade; McIngvale; Also, Millette; Montgomery; Morrow; Neal; Nipper; O'Beirne; Owens; And, Perry; Pierce; Presley; Price; Raney; Richardson; Sanderson; And, Scoper; Shumake; Simmons; Smith, H. L. (34th); Smith, W. O. (43rd); Stennis; Stringer; Also, Sumner; Turner; Walman; Wilkerson; Williams, K. O. (11th); Williams, G. B. (13th); Williamson; Wiseman.
Voting "No": Anderson, D. (31st); Andrews; Arrington; Banks; Blount; Buelow; Campbell; Capps; And, Clark, R. G. (16th); Deaton; Herring; Jackson; Lambert; Manning; McCrary; McInnis; Also, Merideth; Miller; Nebbett; Neunally; O'Keefe; Pearson; Pennebaker; Poindexter; Rogers.
And, Simpson; Smith, J. L. (43rd); Stubbs; Tedford; Wells; Wilburn; Williams, C. V. (10th).
Absent: Coleman; Holmes, J. S. (29th); Long; Mr. Speaker.

Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

In the summer of 1953 the Baptist Record editor's office was moved from the center room on the left to the front corner on the left in the Baptist Building at Mississippi and Congress. Joe Abrams moved into the center office the editor had vacated.

Mrs. Doss Smith and I shared the miniature office outside the editor's door. Through the front window we could see the Capitol and when such events as governors' inaugurations came around, we had a good view. We could also greet all the visitors who came through the Building.

The Baptist Record then was still printed in Vicksburg by the Vicksburg Evening Post (this changed to a Jackson printer around 1954 or 1955). We went copy to Vicksburg by bus, and Dr. A. L. Goodrich would go over once or twice a week to oversee the make-up. Beforehand he rubberstamped articles MUST or TRY. As he liked to look the part of the typical editor, he wore rubber bands on his sleeves, and sometimes a green-visored cap. To advertise his fishing exploits he bragged about his diploma from the University of Fishigan.

Guests he took home to Clinton for overnight visits might be anybody from a Mississippi pastor to the secretary of the Baptist World Alliance or the editor of the Baptist paper in New Zealand. One November he invited all the Baptist Building employees to his home for Thanksgiving dinner. He and Mrs. Goodrich served the ham for which his native North Carolina is famous.

Mrs. Doss Smith retired in 1964 after 21 years as receptionist and office secretary. One of her duties was stuffing envelopes with hundreds of letters promoting Baptist Record circulation. She saw the circulation grow from 38,000 to 98,000 as she worked with three editors.

The former Eleanor Lowe of Laurel, she lives now at 1318 Britt Street in Jackson, and is a member of Van Winkle Church where her late husband was a deacon.

Dr. W. C. Fields, the Record's youngest editor, was 34 when he moved from the pastorate of First Church, Yazoo City to Jackson. He was to begin his duties in May, 1956, after the meeting of the SBC in Kansas City. He left the convention early when he got the message that his new baby daughter, Becky, had arrived. While

Dr. Fields was editor, the Record changed to offset when Duke Thornton, publisher, bought a new press.

In 1959, Dr. Joe Odle moved across the hall to the editor's office. Mrs. Smith and I had known and admired him as the pastor of First Church, Gulfport, and then for three years as associate to Dr. Chester Quarles, executive secretary.

After Mrs. Smith's retirement other secretaries in the editorial office were Mrs. Jerry (Pauline) Morse; Mildred Tolar, now secretary to Dr. P. C. Perkins; Emma Sullinger, Blue Mountain graduate who now lives in Arkansas; Ellen Steele (she and her husband, Craig, now missionaries to Brazil.)

Joe Abrams remained as associate editor through December, 1974. He had worked for a newspaper in Columbus and was pastor at Shuquialak before coming to the Baptist Building for 25 years.

When I think of those who were secretaries to the associate editor, I recall many faces. Freda Porter Trott, missionary to Brazil, and Betty Cooper Merritt, missionary to Africa, were once his secretaries. When I came to work at the Record office, Frankie Warren was Joe's secretary, followed by Betty O'Neill. Then came Marjorie Maples, wife of Cecil Maples, pastor; Judy Clower who married Bud Furches of Crystal Springs; Valerie Wainwright, wife of Don Wainwright, pastor; Martha Hughes of Magee who left to get married; Phyllis Roof, wife of Larry Roof, MC student who built his own house trailer (Larry went on to Baylor to do graduate study; he and Phyllis and their three children now live near Lexington, S. C.); Clotilde Hughes Barrett, wife of Pastor Burns Barrett who accepted a church in Maryland; Pat Tullos of Clinton who met Jim Newton by way of the teletype and married him (Pat and Jim and their two daughters live in Memphis where he is editor of Brotherhood's World Missions Journal); Bobbie Crowell whose husband was transferred to Louisiana; Evelyn Keyes, Laurel native who is now Mr. McGregor's secretary; Florence Larrimore, wife of Music Evangelist Tom Larrimore and now secretary to Tim Nicholas.

In the Mailing Department were others, whose faces I'll try to remember next week.

The Baptist Record

515 Mississippi Street
Jackson, Miss 39201

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Tim Nicholas Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate

William H. Sellers Bus. Manager

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Mississippi Seacoast In 1877: Land Of Promise

By J. B. Hamberlin

It lies between the two great cities of Mobile and New Orleans, 139 miles south of Jackson, Miss., and 60 miles north of latitude of Galveston, Texas. New Orleans is on the 30th parallel and Mobile is 45 miles north of that parallel.

In the spring and fall the temperature is neither too warm nor too cold and these seasons are far more charming than anywhere in the interior. In

winter there is seldom any ice, and vegetation is often green until Christmas. In the summer there is a cool breeze blowing from the Gulf from about 9 o'clock a.m. until about 6 p.m. which is the most vigorous during the middle of the day. During the night there is similar breeze from the land. So that both day and night, the otherwise oppressive heat of this latitude is usually overcome the early morning being the most sultry part of the day. The thermometer seldom ever rises above 90 degrees in the shade in the

summer and no one remembers ever seeing it above 100. Owing to the presence of so much water, the air is moist and the heat of the body is relieved by the easy flow of perspiration. The average temperature here may be higher but the extremes of heat and cold are far less than anywhere north of this. The skies are so clear and bright, the atmosphere so cool, so pure, and so balmy no wonder this region is sought by invalids and by the seekers of pleasure. The first effect upon newcomers is to soothe them to

sleep to the sweetest and most refreshing sleep. There is truth in the saying that it is a climate which invites to indolence. It is easy to live here. The demand for food and clothing is less, consequently, a certain class of the population is poor and thriftless. But among those who do work I see no hindrance to the best development of body and mind.

The general healthfulness here seems to be greater than almost anywhere else and the recuperation of sick and weary people coming from a distance, is almost marvelous just from the effect of the climate, which is aided much by the mineral water found in some places, especially at Ocean Springs. But persons with consumption are always made worse by coming here, while dyspeptics are aided most. Its contiguity to tropical parts exposes us to Yellow Fever sometimes; still during the last thirty, this has given serious disturbance only three or four seasons.

Personal Appearance

From 10 to 20 miles back the land is almost entirely level; beyond that it rises gradually into the hill country. The shores or banks are from 10 to 30 feet above the median tides. The highest tides known. Hitherto, caused by storms of wind, have never covered the 10 feet bank; but a few times have come very near it. Owing to its levelness the ground becomes very wet during continued rains; but the soil is very sandy, and it absorbs the water very soon after the rains come. In the long absence of rain the soil becomes very dry and in summer vegetation of all kinds often suffer seriously. This general level of surface is broken at intervals a little by the depressions of the brooks and rivers which pour into the sea in great numbers.

Nowhere is the land of itself worth much for farming. Yet some forest trees and some fruits and vegetables grow well in the sand where there is little or no clay. I find but few farmers here because of the barrenness of the soil, and because other occupations require less capital and yield more speedy product. But the season for farming is from 8 to 12 months in the year, and those who pursue it properly and persistently are prospering well. After a series of years every farmer could secure a permanent income with but little labor in pecans, oranges, grapes, or in sheep. The recent introduction of the improved windmill will enable farmers to irrigate their lands and thus overcome their greatest difficulty — the excessive dryness in the summer. With proper fertilizing and good management we can produce

here the best sugar cane, rice, sweet and Irish potatoes, melons, hay, peaches, pears, oranges, grapes, (scuppernon especially) vegetables, and flowers. Oh, it is the land for flowers wild and cultivated; the most fragrant and the most beautiful flowers, even sometimes up to the first of January.

Among the material growth pine prevails, then the live oak, water oak, red oak, magnolia, hickory, cypress, along the water courses, and under bushes of various kinds. The live oak makes a monster tree. It is the grandest of all for shade. It is used for ship building. The pines furnish vast quantities of wood, coal and timber. The little gall berry bushes abound everywhere, with a large crop of berries, black when ripe, in which millions of robins, coming from the far north, feed and fatten in winter, affording sport to the huntsmen and food to the needy. Further back in the country there are plenty of squirrels, turkeys, deer and other game. Very little of the land is enclosed, and the grass grows luxuriant all over the country — the best grazing for stock almost the whole year round. The raising of stock, especially sheep, roaming at large, is an important business here; but there is room for more than ten times the present number.

The distance between Mobile and New Orleans is about 150 miles. A part of this distance lies in Louisiana, scarcely any inhabited. A part lies in Alabama with two depot villages and some other settlements. The most of this distance centrally lies in Mississippi with 9 beautiful villages and a considerable population. A splendid railroad connects the two large cities, running near the seashore, most of the way, crossing the rivers and bays with the best bridges in the world. Nine navigable rivers including Pascagoula and the Pearl run into the Gulf, besides many smaller streams. These drain one-half of the state of Mississippi, passing through the richest forest of yellow pine in the world. Adown these streams this pine is floated and near their mouths it is sawed at points convenient for shipping. Our 47 sawmills are now actively running, while many others are idle. Most of this lumber is consumed in the United States, but an average 150 large ships annually carry 30,000,000 feet of it to Europe and other foreign markets.

The Bay of St. Louis is about 50 miles east of New Orleans — 4 miles wide and 5 miles long. The Bay of Biloxi is 30 miles further east — two miles wide and 12 miles long. These bays are only about 16 feet deep in the channels and

more shallow elsewhere. On their shores and on the main beach itself, are the most beautiful building sites. The live oaks with their dense shade, the green grass, the fragrance of the oranges themselves, the cool breezes, the glassy water spread out in front, the leaping of the fishes, the soaring of the sea birds, the roaring of the small boats, the sailing of the large ones, the clear bright sunshine — these altogether give the appearance of an earthly paradise. The scenery is often romantic in the extreme, when the waters are smooth and still or when stirred by the heavier somber winds they surge with white foaming billows, or when at quiet evening time the dying waves hum their gentle lullaby as they break more and more softly upon the shore. In some places the low marsh lands are marsh islands, covered only with marsh grass from one to ten feet high is, with some, the most objectionable feature to the eye. But these marshes do not produce malaria nor sickness, because of the salt in the tidewater which inundates them once a day: yet they produce any quantity of mosquitoes and gnats which are the greatest annoyance on the coast — just as they are in New Orleans. For most of the year one cannot sleep well except under a mosquito bar. Horses, cows, sheep, etc., often suffer very much from these little tormentors in some places. At several points there are small lakes, bayous, or other arms of water suited exactly to fish raising just as small or just as large as any parties could wish. In this beautiful independent fortunes could be made here, but no one has undertaken it yet.

The villages along the main shore are most beautifully located looking out southward upon the expanse of water; in some directions the view being limited only by the sky and by the sea. From three to twelve miles out, lying nearly parallel to the shore, is a chain of islands, a little distance from each other, mostly uninhabited. Inside of these islands is Mississippi Sound; outside is the vast Gulf of Mexico, one thousand miles long, and nearly as many wide. In the sound are two harbors, Pascagoula and Ship Island. The latter is one of the largest in the world, and one of the safest, having a depth of 18 to 24 feet. Near the beach the water is usually shallow so that elevated wharves are extended from 50 to 500 yards to reach a sufficient depth for the bath houses, and for the land of the large vessels. And, Oh, the amusement as well as healthfulness of sea bathing, of rowing and sailing, of catching fishes and crabs, and of eating them and the oysters! No better oysters are found anywhere else.



"The live oak makes a monster tree. It is the grandest of all for shade. . . ." (Jordan River near Bay St. Louis) — Photo by Hinman

Kosciusko Entertains 1884 Convention Crowd

This is an article on the front page of the July 10, 1884, just prior to the meeting of the State Convention in Kosciusko. It is an interesting sidelight on Convention sessions at that time. The subject is —

Convention Entertainment

We, the undersigned, claim some experience in providing homes for delegates and visitors to the Mississippi Baptist State Convention. As our experiences comparatively fresh, we may be competent to make some suggestions, which will prove serviceable to both the host and guest of Kosciusko. With the best arrangements possible, it is not small work for a small town to entertain so large a body as our State Convention. Kosciusko will evidently do her best, and will doubtless prove herself competent for the work so close at hand. Those of us who go should be willing to help in every possible way.

How can we help?

You may help by heeding the following suggestions. By all means send your name and post office address to the committee. By no means send your name unless you are going. If you have sent your name and have made your

arrangements to go and something occurs to prevent, then, notify the committee, if you have to ride ten miles to mail the postal card.

Do not embarrass the committee by taking a brother along with you, who has not sent his name, and then undertake to help the committee out of the trouble by saying your friends and yourself can occupy the same bed.

On reaching Kosciusko don't stop until you have found your home, once there and your baggage there, there remain until the Convention adjourns.

Don't stop with brethren who chance to be very near the church, for dinner, less you should crowd the host beyond endurance. If the host should wish you to dine with him, he can easily invite you. Don't tarry at the church after the Convention has adjourned for dinner, less you force your gentle hostess to greet you with a smile on her face, when there is a frown in her heart.

Please don't ask the committee why you were given a home so far from the church, and if they could not make a change in some way so as to locate you nearer.

If possible, let not your going up the assembly of the saints, be in the night. Last year a good sister was made to worry and complain no little. She had

remained at home, prepared a magnificent dinner and waited for guests — they didn't come. If you are going to stop with Uncle Bob, Cousin Jim, Aunt Sally, or Cousin Mary, the committee should know it, so as not to crowd the good relatives.

This advice has been given without the hope of reward or the fear of punishment, and to the brethren at that.

The sister, well they know how to lighten the labor of the good housewife. They understand the duties of the housekeeper and will prove themselves helpful wherever they may be.

Now we venture a word to the good people of Kosciusko: Don't be alarmed, brethren. We have traveled the road before you, and know there is no cause for fear.

Fit up a large hall where many brethren may be accommodated with lodging, and then distribute them around to other homes where they may take their meals.

Hoping that we may have a large and profitable meeting we are yours in the faith.

A. J. Miller,
W. T. Smith,
H. G. Riser
Crystal Springs
June 27, '84

Mrs. Goodrich Recalls The Days When Her Husband Was Editor

By Evie Landrum Goodrich

The election of A. L. to the editorship of the Baptist Record was one of the happiest days of our lives, but we were not forgetful of the many wonderful editors who had preceded him, and he was determined to do his best. He wanted to keep Mississippi Baptists informed about the work and for the Truth always to be told in whatever he published.

His preparation for this work probably began when he was a young man as he had worked for a county paper and a student at Wake Forest. After his graduation he went to the Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and later attended Vanderbilt University.

Among his pastorates were Lexington, Ky. and First Baptist Church of Pontotoc, Miss., prior to his election as the circulation manager of the Baptist Record in 1935.

The seven years as circulation manager gave him the opportunity of knowing the pastors and people of the state, and he never failed to tell them of the state, and he never failed to tell them of the state. Nearly every Sunday he supplied for a pastor of one of the churches in the state.

A member of the Baptist Record Advisory Committee stated that he always admired Dr. Goodrich for being a "team" man — one who was concerned about ALL of Baptist life in ALL of the churches. This same man, later president of the Convention Board, commented on the "Every

Family Plan" which was first promoted by Dr. Goodrich, and because of his success with tremendous increase in circulation, most other Southern Baptist state papers later adopted the plan successfully. Tied to this success was the fact that during his entire editorship, the Baptist Record operated within its own income from circulation and advertising, never having to ask for a dollar of Cooperative Program funds to supplement operating costs.

On our honeymoon we stopped at a service station. It seemed to be taking a long time for my husband to buy the gasoline, so I looked around to see what he was doing. He was talking to the attendant, trying to get him to subscribe to the Baptist Record.

Other Southern Baptists editors recognized his Christian journalistic abilities as well as his business acumen by electing him as the president of their official organization.

Believing that idleness is the devil's workshop, he tried to instill the children with the advantage of knowing how to work. Each child was given a project, music lessons, and the benefit of the good things of the community. Today, if he could speak to each of them, he would no doubt say, "I am proud of you."

A. L. had many interests. Besides being busy with the Baptist Record he worked hard at home. He never forgot our special days, such as birthdays, and the last day he lived we prepared a celebration for the son's birthday,

which was the next day. He liked to surprise us, and he had bought cuff links for his son and had them wrapped in a big box much larger than the one in which they came.

The children honor his memory, and of course I am thrilled with the consideration and thoughtfulness they give me.

A. L. was an avid reader and spent much time in reading. One beautiful morning we were on the plane going to New York City. I was sitting next to the window looking at the wonderful formation of the clouds. He was absorbed in what he was reading. I said, "Oh, look at the beautiful clouds; what would David have written if he had seen that?" He casually looked up and agreed that the clouds were beautiful, but he said, "I think David did a pretty good job as it was."

As I reflect upon the various interests that he had, I find that some of the things he started are still in existence, such as a pressing shop in Benson, N. C. He liked to garden and plant trees. I still get grapes and apples from his work.

His last day was a full one, and that night we went to the Wednesday night prayer service. After we got home he was taken fatally ill, and was taken to Baptist Hospital where he died within a very short time.

A few days after his death our gardener, an elderly black man, stood at my door and said, with tears flowing down his cheeks, "I have lost the best friend I ever had."

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Foreign Mission Board, SBC

Baker J. Cauthen
Executive Director



School's First Paper

MC Gets Copy Of "Electric Light"

One of the first college papers printed at Mississippi College and perhaps one of the first community papers in the Clinton area has been donated to the Leland Speed Library at the college by a McComb resident and her daughter.

Mrs. Arnot Havis Libby of McComb and her daughter, Cynthia Dawn, a junior at the college, have presented a copy of the "Electric Light" dated January, 1883. It was published by the Hermetic and Philomathean Literary Societies of Mississippi College and sold for ten cents a copy. This particular issue was the first for the paper.

The paper is four pages in length, and contains several humorous stories and quips. The editors stated their views on the quality of the paper by saying that "The Electric Light shall stand a full head and shoulders above all other such publications and its contents will be made to conform to high standards. Contributors are requested, therefore, not to send us any dull or trivial articles, since the inevitable destination of such will be the wastebasket."

Upon reading the paper one quickly gets the impression that the writers were quick to criticize actions of others that they saw to be less than satisfactory. This is exemplified by the statement that "The Electric Light is a fault finder and reformer, and we will not hesitate to rebuke wrong, wherever and whenever found."

Numerous accounts of the happenings of the day are found throughout the paper, as well as discussions on issues of the day.

Easthaven, Main Street, And Harmony Are Distinguished Churches Thus Far

With one third of 1976-77 gone, Mississippi churches are reporting an increase over last year in churches attaining recognition in the use of the CHURCH TRAINING ACHIEVEMENT GUIDE, according to Kermit S. King, Director of the Church Training Department.

Of the 22 who have attained at least the Merit level, three churches have qualified for Distinguished Recognition. These are Easthaven, Lincoln, Robert M. Hanney, pastor; Main Street, Lebanon, John Barnes, pastor; Harmony, Winston, Tommy Jones, pastor.

Six churches in addition to these three have qualified for Advanced Recognition. These are Calvary, Lowndes; First Grenada, Grenada; Dixie, Lebanon; Oakhurst, Riverside; Immanuel, Leflore; and Olivet, Gulf Coast.

The 13 churches which have attained Merit recognition are Mt. Zion, Tate; Peach Creek, Panola; Mt. Pisgah, Choctaw; First Tupelo, Lee; Chester, Choctaw; Crowder, Quitman; Acker-

man, Choctaw; Glenfield, Union County; Unity, Jackson; Cross Roads, Webster; First Holly Springs, Marshall; Midway, Lauderdale; and Ridgecrest, Lebanon.

The latest fashions for women were discussed in length, and it was stated that dogs, high heel shoes, and jewelry were out. The Mississippi College Cadet's new uniforms were observed as looking too sweet and warlike for any use.

A guideline for the decisions of the politicians of the day was represented in the statement that "nothing is politically right that is morally wrong."

Chapel lectures were taken as good advice for the well being of the students. One speaker said that "The average student is unaware that he derives less benefit by dragging his feet and loafing along while taking his alleged morning and evening walks than if he had remained in his room perfectly still." The lecturer felt that the student should walk with his head erect and chest forward like God had intended man to walk and to walk as briskly as a man going after a doctor for a dying man.

The editors religious convictions were summarized by the statement that "There are many persons that are afraid to look the devil squarely in the face and gently, though firmly remind him that he is the devil. We are proud to affirm eternal disconnection from this class."

Adult and Youth training groups at First Church, Grenada; a children's department and young adult training group from Belden Church, Lee Association; and the median adult training group of First Columbus, Lowndes Associations have qualified for age-division achievement thus far this church year.

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1883 NEWSPAPER—Mrs. Arnot Havis Libby (right) of McComb and her daughter, Cynthia Dawn Libby, have presented Mississippi College with a copy of the first newspaper ever printed on campus and one of the first in the community. Dated January, 1883, the paper is called "The Electric Light" and makes for interesting reading. Cynthia is a junior at the college.

West Side Recognizes Farr On His 50th Anniversary



E. C. Farr, retired pastor of West Side Church, Macon, was honor guest at the Watch Night service held there December 31. West Side members presented a plaque to Farr, and a cake in recognition of his fiftieth anniversary in the ministry.

Farr was ordained at a Watch Night service in 1926 at 41st Avenue Church, Meridian (now Calvary). He has served as pastor of 15 churches, with 12 years at West Side, and helped to organize several churches.

During his ministry he served three years as clerk of Kemper Association and seven years as clerk of Noxubee Association. He was field representative for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board during the 1939-40 fund drive for the "NOW" and "5000" clubs and was the state's second appointee as associational missionary (1940-42) in Washington, Humphreys, Issaquena, and Sharkey counties.

In 1951 and 1952 he was elected Mis-

issippi's representative on the SBC Committee of Nominations, meeting in San Francisco and Miami.

Since retirement he has supplied many pulpits all over the state. He has made several trips abroad, including tours of the Holy Land.

Fred Bookter, Baptist Minister, Dies At Age 76

Fred B. Bookter, 76, long-time Baptist minister, died on January 28. He formerly served as pastor of Central Church, McComb for 15 years. During the period he was at Central Church, he was active in state convention work and his county association.

Bookter was a graduate of Louisiana College and the seminary in New Orleans. In addition to his pastorate at Central he also served as pastor of several churches in Louisiana. After retirement he served as interim pastor to churches in the McComb area.

He was preceded in death by his wife Willie Mae in September 1972. He is survived by a son, Fred B. Bookter, Jr. of Graham, North Carolina; two daughters, Kathryn Jacobs of Miami, Florida, and Eleanor B. Farr of Jackson; and eight grandchildren.

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Laymen, Pastors To Build Church In Ecuador In April

Agricultural Missions Foundation has announced plans for a construction - mission field visit to South America in April. Current plans are for 15 volunteer laymen and pastors to travel to Ecuador to assist in the construction of a church building. The length of the work trip will be two weeks.

The construction team will assist Missionary Marvin Ford with the erection and completion of a wooden frame church. Individuals interested in assisting in this project should contact Larry Otis, executive director, Agriculture Missions Foundation, P. O. Box 875, Tupelo.

"All team members are expected to pay their own expenses and carry carpentry tools," Otis said. The group will be met in Ecuador by Sammy Simpson, a Mississippian, for the two weeks of work.

The two weeks will include a work period of construction, and a mission

tour to visit various mission points in Ecuador. This work trip will be coordinated through the Foreign Mission Board.

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The messengers attending the Mississippi Baptist State Convention in 1912 in Jackson are shown above. It is supposed that it might have been Editor P. I. Lipsey who is in the left section of the picture holding a copy of *The Baptist Record*. Evangelist Dan Moulder has been identified as the man kneeling beside the young

man who is holding his hat in both hands. That young man was the father of R. R. Newman, the pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church in Union, and it was Newman who furnished the picture.

1912 Convention

Baptists and Methodists Work Together In "Golden Fellowship"

A love and concern for senior citizens and shut-ins of Golden and the surrounding area by two of the small North Mississippi town's preachers formed the foundation for the Golden Fellowship.

W. L. Oaks, pastor of Golden Central Church, and Rodney Borders, pastor of Golden Chapel United Methodist Church, each felt led by God to do something to provide a time of worship and fellowship for the community's aged, many of whom were unable to attend regular weekly church services. After long hours of prayer and discussion, each presented his ideas to his respective church, asking for volunteers to help.

On March 20, 1974, a group of concerned individuals from the two churches met with Oaks and Borders for a planning session. They agreed to meet with the community's aged on the third Wednesday of each month, alternating between the two churches as meeting places. The name Golden Fellowship was chosen.

Prospects were contacted prior to the initial meeting, and on April 24 when the group met for the first time, a total of 52 people gathered at Central Church.

Oaks and Borders each addressed the group briefly, and a guest speaker was presented to deliver the message. Robert Deaton, a member of Central Church, led the group in singing familiar hymns.

Following the service, lunch prepared by the ladies from the two churches was served.

Attendance increased with each passing month, and in December of 1974, a total of 98 people met at Golden Chapel United Methodist Church.

Although each month's program varies, each consists of a time of worship, prayer and fellowship and lunch. Plates are also delivered to shut-ins of the community.

These meetings have become special to those concerned in the nearly three years since the program began. To the senior citizens who attend, it's a time when they can worship together in God's house and feel a special closeness to God and to their fellow man.

Seminary Extension Offers Five Courses In Clinton

Five courses will be offered through the Mississippi College Seminary Extension Center during the spring semester according to Eugene I. Farr, director.

Farr said courses will be offered on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights starting on Feb. 28 and running through April 28. Each class will meet nine times for two hours, from 7-9 p.m., on the nights designated.

Offered on Monday nights will be New Testament Theology, a thematic study of the teachings of the New Testament, taught by E. B. Pinson, former chairman of the Division of Religion at the college.

Three courses will be available on Tuesday nights. They include New Testament I, a survey of the life of Christ, taught by Howard E. Spell, dean and professor of Bible emeritus; Public Worship, a study of the nature and purpose of worship based on the New Testament, taught by Joe Stovall, pastor of Parkhill Church, Jackson;

To the volunteers who plan each program, take a part in the program, prepare and serve the meals or in any way participate, it's a time of sharing the love God put in their hearts with those who mean so much to the country.

The dream of two men of God of different religious backgrounds to provide a special day each month for the aged has become a reality and a blessing to an entire community.

and Church Music, taught by Bill Bacon, minister of music at First Church, Clinton.

Farr will teach a Thursday night class entitled Old Testament I, a survey of the first ten books of the Old Testament.

If a woman can be a sweetheart, valet, audience, cook and nurse, she is qualified for marriage.

Southwestern Singers To Appear In Concert At MC

Mississippi College will present a concert by the Men's Chorus and the Consort Singers of Southwestern Seminary on Sunday afternoon, February 27, at 3:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Aven Fine Arts Building.

The Men's Chorus, directed by James McKinney, Dean of the School of Music, will sing a sacred program featuring spirituals, sacred folk songs, traditional hymn arrangements and the music of Bach and Gretchaninoff. The Consort Singers, a mixed madri-

J. H. Malley Dies

James H. Malley, the son of the late Rev. V. W. Malley of Harrisville and Mrs. Malley of Florence, died December 28, 1976 at V. A. Hospital in Jackson.

Funeral services were held December 30 from Pearl Baldwin Chapel with J. W. Chandler and Paul B. Williamson officiating.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Barbara Chandler Malley; three daughters, Mrs. Debbie Thomas, Robin Malley and Zina Malley of Richland; his mother, Mrs. Maude Malley of Florence, three sisters, and two brothers.

MC Dedicates New Building

Mississippi College held dedication ceremonies Thursday, Jan. 27, at 2 p.m. for the new School of Nursing and Home Economics facility.

The building, placed into service month, was formally named during the ceremonies. It provides modern facilities for the two fast growing areas of the academic program.

Taking part in the dedication services were Lewis Nobles, college president; Charles E. Martin, vice-president for academic affairs; Dr. and Mrs. William B. Cockroft, Memphis, Tenn., benefactors; Howard E. Spell, dean and professor of Bible emeritus; Paul Pryor, administrator of the Baptist Medical Center; Frances McGuffee, head of the Department of Home Economics and Marion Bassett, dean of the School of Nursing.

Located on the corner of College and Capitol Streets in the northwestern portion of the campus, the building brings the School of Nursing operations into one complex.

The Department of Home Economics, formerly located in the basement of Mary Nelson and Gunter Halls, women residences, now has more complete facilities.

The humblest individual exerts some influence, either for good or evil, upon others.—Henry Ward Beecher
Can anything be so elegant as to have few wants, and to serve them one's self?—Emerson

ARIZONA-NEVADA

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS SAY

CONGRATULATIONS and Happy Birthday to the MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST RECORD ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR 100th Anniversary

Many of our finest leaders and Christian workers are former Mississippians.

We shall forever be grateful for the significant contributions Mississippians have

made to our Lord's Work in the West and particularly in the ARIZONA SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

Executive Director-Treasurer

THE BAPTIST CONVENTION OF PENNSYLVANIA-SOUTH JERSEY

has special reason for congratulating The Baptist Record and Mississippi Baptist Convention in this centennial issue.

We thank you for preachers and lay people who have come to work in our pioneer convention.

We thank you for financial support through the Cooperative Program and the Annie Armstrong Offering.

We thank you for prayers and financial support from Mississippi Baptist churches which have sponsored new congregations in our young convention.

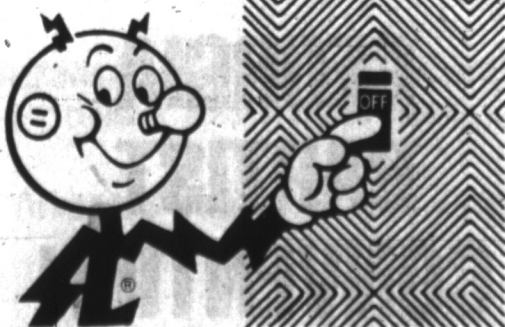
We congratulate you and pray that God will keep you a dynamic missionary people until Jesus comes.

The Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey
G. W. Bullard, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
900 South Arlington Avenue/Harrisburg, PA 17109



Therman V. Bryant, first row, left, consultant, Cooperative Mission Department Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, was speaker for the Christmas luncheon meeting of Golden Fellowship. The kindergarten of the First Baptist Church of Iuka brought the special music.

Conserving Electric Power Makes Sense



Electric power is a valuable resource, and it makes good sense to conserve it. Here are a few easy ways to do that:

- Make sure your home is properly insulated.
- Keep your thermostat at 68° in winter and 78° in summer.
- Use dishwashers and clothes dryers only when you have a full load.
- Conserve hot water.
- Turn off TV's, radios, stereos, and lights when not in use.

A few simple rules, but following them makes good sense. Dollars and cents, too...because these rules help you save money as well as electricity.

Get the conservation booklet, "79 Ways You Can Save On Your Energy Bill," at any MP&L office.

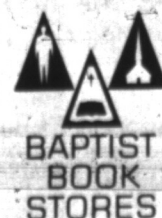


MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT
Helping Build Mississippi

Open your heart to others... and their need to learn about God's love



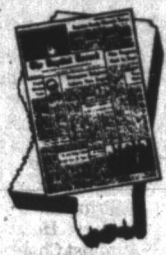
Set aside a few days in 1977 to become involved in Mission Vacation Bible School!



This is a real opportunity to provide the spiritual and physical needs of those who cannot attend VBS at the church. The material is designed especially for those who may be getting their first exposure to the Bible and to Christian influence.

If you want to help, a KIT has been provided for you with everything you need to study and plan. The MISSION VBS ADVANCED PLANNING KIT includes one copy of each age group curriculum on the "Good News for Me" Series — plus a VBS Plan Book, VBS Joint Service Book, and a VBS Pupil's Joint Service Booklet for 1977. (Convention) \$16.50

If you want to meet this challenge order a Mission VBS Advanced Planning Kit with all the materials you need from your Baptist Book Store or Mail Order Center.



Just For The Record

First Church, Greenwood, under the leadership of Larry G. Rohman as pastor, has contributed more than any other time in the church's history to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The total contributions received have come to \$12,785 which is more than five times the amount of money that was given last year through the church. The 1500-member church averaged giving more than \$8.00 per person for every man, woman, and child who is a member of the church.

Rohman said, "There was no special scheme used. Simply, the needs of missions were stressed from the pulpit."

The people were urged to either give a week's salary or let their largest Christmas gift go to this cause or use the total amount of money spent for gifts at Christmas be used as a goal for the family.

"It is exciting to see what God has done through our Church," said Rohman. "We believe God has great things in store for a church whose dedication has been expressed in such a wonderful way for our mission causes."

The Young Women's Class of First Church, Okolona, recently gave a party in honor of Mrs. Blanche Chandler, long-time Sunday School teacher at the church. The young women presented a skit entitled, "To Tell the Truth." Searching for the "real Blanche Chandler," they asked questions of the three contestants, Mrs. Patty Ann Coleman, Mrs. Blanche Chandler, and Mrs. Cullen Jagers. The panelists were Mrs. Sara Downey (Bill Cullen), Mrs. Nona Stalnaker (Gene Rayburn), Mrs. Anita Mathis (Kitty Carlisle), and Mrs. Joanna Carter (Peggy Cass). Mrs. Diane Whitt (Garry Moore) was the emcee and Mrs. Wilma Earnest was the announcer. Mrs. Nina Moore presented the devotional.

The class presented to the church, in honor of Mrs. Chandler, a set of four silver communion plates for use at Lord's Supper observances. One of the class members said, "Mrs. Chandler is a devoted Sunday School teacher and a radiant Christian. She is also a talented painter and writer."



Highland Church, Crystal Springs, has called James E. Griffith of Monticello as pastor. Griffith was formerly pastor at Mt. Zion Church, Brookhaven.

He is married to the former Clara Nazary. They have three children. The youngest, Renee, is a senior at Loyd Star School.

Griffith attended New Orleans Seminary, where he received his B.D. degree. He was ordained at Bethel Church, Monticello, and has been preaching for more than 29 years.



Acteons of First Church, Okolona, decided to use the angel on the foreign mission poster as the theme of their Christmas parade float. The angel stood in the center of the float, in front of a blue backdrop carrying the words, "Good News of a Great Joy." Three shepherds, young GAs, sat at the front of the float looking at the angel. The Acteons' silver and white float didn't win a prize but it was the only float in the parade with a religious theme.

Roy McHenry is pastor of the Okolona church. Mrs. Diane Whitt, Mrs. Roy McHenry, and Mrs. Joanna Carter worked with the Acteons in making the float.

Georgetown Church with 185 resident members, collected \$2,015.74 for the 1976 Lottie Moon Christmas offering. This is nearly \$11.00 per resident member. Last year the Lottie Moon offering was \$722.70; this year the goal was \$1000. Helen Falls, professor of missions, New Orleans Seminary, was featured speaker at the missions banquet on November 27. She began Week of Prayer by sharing a mission challenge on Sunday, November 28th. "The Lord blessed this fellowship through the outstanding offering and we, in turn, have felt a closer part of the Cooperative Program by supporting the Foreign Missions effort for 18 minutes and 20 seconds (at \$110 per minute)," says John D. Engle, pastor.

Riverport Church, Greenville, M. E. Perry, pastor, was host on January 11 for the Executive Board meeting of Washington Association. WMU ladies and deacons' wives decorated the social hall, and served supper to the guests. Fifty-eight attended the quarterly meeting of the association held in the church sanctuary. Annie Laura DeMoney, Jay McKinney, and Kenny Hawk presented special music. Mrs. Jean Tullos, WMU director, reports that Riverport Church set a goal of \$250 for the Lottie Moon Offering, and gave \$253.07.

Washington Association Sponsors Church Missions Committees Retreat

The Missions Committee of Washington County Association sponsored a Church Missions Committee Retreat as the climax of a year-long Church Missions Committee promotional campaign. They had 41 Church Missions Committee members or representatives present from 11 of the 19 churches of the association. Visiting leader for the retreat was J. D. Lundy, director of missions, Holmes-Leflore Association. Others on program were Frank Bishop, pastor at Greenfield, Greenville, and D. N. Mayhall, director of Missions, Washington Association.

The major purpose of the retreat was to draw Church Missions Committee members aside for a period of special training and guidance. Features included a study of the Church Missions Committee Manual, a look at the relation of the Association Missions Committee and the Church Missions Committee, and a glimpse into the challenge of the Board Mission Thrust of the Convention.

Children's Home Honors D.C. Black

D. C. Black, who retired in August, 1962, after serving more than 16 years as superintendent of the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home in Monroe, has been named Superintendent Emeritus by the Home Board of Trustees.

Emmanuel Baptist Church in Alexandria.

Black served ten years on the Monroe First Baptist Church staff prior to succeeding Dr. T. W. Gayer as Children's home superintendent June 1, 1946.

The honor was officially bestowed on Black in a special service scheduled at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, January 30 in the Daddy Flowers Chapel on the Home campus.

Black, who was 80 years old Dec. 27, served longer than any other person as Home superintendent. Since retirement, he has been assistant to Pastor T. Earl Ogg at College Place Church in Monroe.

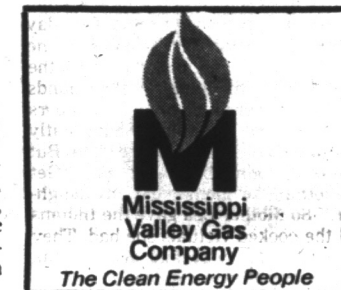
D. C. Black was born Dec. 27, 1896 in Lafayette County, Miss. When a Junior boy, he was baptized into the membership of the Oxford (Miss.) First Church. As a young man he was an express messenger for the American (Railway) Express Company, working out of Memphis, Tenn., on the Illinois Central. During World War I, he served with the U. S. Cavalry on the Mexican border.

In 1924, Black sold his interest in an auto parts and repair business in Oxford, Miss., and entered the Baptist Bible Institute (now New Orleans Seminary) where he graduated from the School of Music in 1927. He served in music and education work at Emmanuel and Valence Street Baptist churches in New Orleans, Minden and Winnfield First Baptist churches, and

Mr. and Mrs. Black live at 315 Moris Avenue in Monroe.



Harold Fisher, right, president of Blue Mountain College, congratulates D. C. Black upon his being named superintendent emeritus of the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home in Monroe. Black, a native of Oxford, Miss., was Home superintendent from 1946 until his retirement in 1962. Now 80, he served longer as superintendent than any other person in the Home's 78-year history. Fisher's wife is Black's niece.



Clarence Palmer's Wife Dies

Mrs. Clarence Palmer of 2001 Proper St., Corinth, died January 15, in Nashville, Tenn., of cancer. She and her husband had celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in June, 1975.

Palmer, a pastor in Mississippi for many years, now retired, entered his 61st year in the Christian ministry in November, 1976.

When your neighbor's house is afire your own property is at stake.—Horace



February 20, 1977

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Upon one hundred years of effective service to the Baptist people and churches, of Mississippi.

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Upon effective leadership and generous support of Southern Baptist efforts to share the blessings of Christ and the gospel with all the world.



GEORGIA BAPTIST CONVENTION

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My Great, Great, Great-Grandmother, Margaret Muse Clay

By Ella Lea Bennett

In the Bicentennial Year, it was my great pleasure to write this story about my Great-Grandmother Clay, of whom I am the fourth generation. Since early childhood, I have had great love and reverence for her, and always enjoyed visiting in an old home of a relative where her armchair and Bible were kept.

Her maiden name was Margaret Muse. She was born in Chesterfield County, Virginia, in the year 1737. When quite young, Margaret Muse married James Clay, a near relative of Henry Clay, the Kentucky statesman. A picture of Henry Clay in a three-cornered hat, knee-breeches and frilled shirt, hung on the wall of a relative, Hampton Lea, in Amite County, Mississippi.

The most noted event of Great-Grandmother's life was the time that she was tried for her religious preference and condemned to be whipped at the stake. Those were the days of religious persecution. A Virginia evangelist, Jeremiah Walker, was once imprisoned in Chesterfield County for his religious beliefs and convictions. Great-Grandmother, along with many other, heard him preach through the prison bars. She, with eleven other people, was afterwards baptized by him in the James River by moonlight, without a song being sung. Later, she with the eleven others, was summoned, to be tried on a certain day at Chesterfield Court House for belonging to a sect (Baptist) of Christians unpopular in that time. Considerable excitement prevailed throughout the countryside in regard to this event.

When the day set for trial arrived, Great-Grandfather inquired of Great-Grandmother at breakfast, "Well, Margaret, what are you going to do about the trial? Are you going?"

Her reply was, "Yes, James, I am going." So Great-Grandfather went to his work and Great-Grandmother tidied the house and placed a lunch in the cupboard for the children to eat at noon time. Then, bidding them goodbye, she made her way on foot to Chesterfield. The Court House was thronged with spectators and viewed her and the eleven companions with great attention.

Patrick Henry was present, and when the trial began, he pleaded their cause. He made an eloquent defense. However, the case was lost and they were all sentenced to be tied to the stake and whipped. The shoulders of each of the twelve persons were bared and one by one they received their stripes. Just as Great-Grandmother's turn came, a man hastened through the crowd and obtained her release by paying her persecutors a sum of money and then quickly disappeared back into the crowd. Great-Grandmother endeavored to learn the name of her deliverer, but could never find out who he was.

That afternoon, Great-Grandfather left his work earlier than usual and started walking toward Chesterfield to meet Great-Grandmother. Soon he heard her coming, her voice ringing clear and musical to the words of the familiar hymn, beginning "Children of the Heavenly King, as ye journey sweetly sing." After this, Great-Grandmother was allowed to enjoy her

religion unmolested, and many, through her influence, were converted to her belief. That order of Christians once despised and persecuted, is today respected and venerated throughout Virginia.

Great-Grandmother Clay continued to live in Chesterfield County, Virginia until her husband's death. Then she, with her son and daughter, moved to Tennessee near Knoxville. There her daughter met and married Zachariah Lea. They moved to Mississippi about 1802, locating in an area now known as Amite County.

The country was new and unsettled then and this site was densely wooded with swamp timber, having an almost impenetrable undergrowth of cane, Spanish dagger, and palmetto. But Zachariah Lea swung his axe with a sturdy stroke and soon his strong arms subdued the wilderness. He admired a great magnolia tree down by the creek and left it standing, and succeeding generations left it still untouched.

The house that Zachariah Lea built was a rude dwelling of hewn logs. Yet it was considered quite a nice house in those days, as it had a room at the side and an attic chamber overhead. Great-Grandmother was getting old at that time and the noise of the children disturbed her, so a little cottage was built for her which stood near the dwelling just beyond a large old oak tree by the milk house.

Every night, Great-Grandmother would gather the family around her and have the girls and boys to sing, then they all would stand around her chair while she read and explained a portion from the Bible, after which she knelt and offered prayer. The little chair is split-bottomed and made of oak, the arms polished and worn by long use. This chair and her Bible are still in existence in the home of a direct descendant in Louisiana.

Great-Grandmother was very neat and orderly in her dress. She always wore about her neck a large kerchief folded three-cornered, and at night when making ready for bed, she removed her kerchief and folded it square and each article of apparel when taken off was hung smoothly upon a peg.

Great-Grandmother was a woman with keen presence of mind. One day while Zachariah Lea was off in the field, a band of Indians surrounded the house. They had paint on their hands and they peered in through the doors and windows in a manner that greatly frightened dear little Mother Lea. But Great-Grandmother said to her, "Get something for them to eat, my daughter." So Mother Lea gave the Indians all the cooked victuals she had. They quietly went away and never again was she visited by them.

Great-Grandmother was endowed with uncommon medical skill. From miles away the neighbors would send for her in cases of illness. Her drug store lay in the woods and fields and nature provided a generous apothecary.

Great-Grandmother was a woman of unusual piety and integrity. She was held in such great esteem that ministers would request her to lead in prayer at church, which was indeed a mark of reverence and honor to bestow upon a woman in those days.

Great-Grandmother lived almost to her 96th birthday, enjoying almost un-failing health all those years. Her last days were full of peace and when the

end came, the body without a struggle resigned its long companionship with the spirit.

The old plantation house still stands, dating back to the early 1800's. This home, the birth and burial place of her descendants, has never been disturbed and not one of her sons or daughters, so far as I know, has ever brought dishonor upon her memory. Upon that hill, where the cedars grow, the rising moon and setting sun lend their benediction of light upon Great-Grandmother's grave.

The cemetery, called Zachariah Lea Cemetery, is on land now known as the Huron Ranch, located in Amite County, between Liberty and Magnolia, Mississippi.

The General Roberts McCausland Chapter of U. S. Daughters of 1812 dedicated a memorial marker to Captain Zachariah Lea.

The following appeared in a Missis-

issippi newspaper, the Clarion Ledger, July 14, 1974. Carl McIntire, the Sunday editor of the Clarion Ledger, visited all the cemeteries in the state. He said that "The oldest yet reported is the year 1737. It is the year of the birth of Mrs. Margaret Muse Clay, born in Virginia and buried in the Zachariah Lea Cemetery in Amite County, between Liberty and Magnolia. She was born April 2, 1737, and died February 23, 1832. We have further information about the same tombstone with the note that she was a relative of Henry Clay. The cemetery is on land known as the Huron Ranch. The house there dates to the early 1800's."

As a Bicentennial story, it could have ended here, but it might be well to continue the story to show what a tremendous legacy Margaret Muse Clay passed on to her posterity. The men, as I knew them, had great integrity and the women had queenly modesty and

quite a few married ministers. Her mantle fell upon one of her grandsons, Wilford Zachariah Lea, my own grandfather, who for many years served as treasurer of the Old Mississippi Baptist Association. It was often said that my saintly grandfather learned much about the Bible while sitting at Great-Grandmother Clay's knee.

He was a successful farmer and built a two-story home with timber cut from his land and lumber sawed by hand. This imposing house still stands on a rolling hill by the side of the old Jackson Road near Liberty, Mississippi, where the first telegraph line in that area was built.

He always maintained a large flower yard and vegetable garden which he generously shared with his friends and neighbors. His life was like an open-face watch and he became more saintly in his latter years and

lived to be almost 90 years old. His favorite song was "The Home of the Soul."

His mantle fell on his great-grandson, also my son, Donald A. Bennett. He is a Baptist minister and has been active in pioneer missionary service during his ministry. He organized the Immanuel Baptist Church in Natchez, Mississippi, in 1944, when he was 21 years old.

I am now in my ninetieth year and life has brought me many rich experiences, many of which are the direct result of the spiritual heritage I received from Great-Grandmother Clay. The Christian faith, as taught and lived by my Baptist forebears, is the faith that has sustained me for nearly a century of living in this world, and the faith that gives me a secure hope in the Great Beyond.

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE: a bright promise

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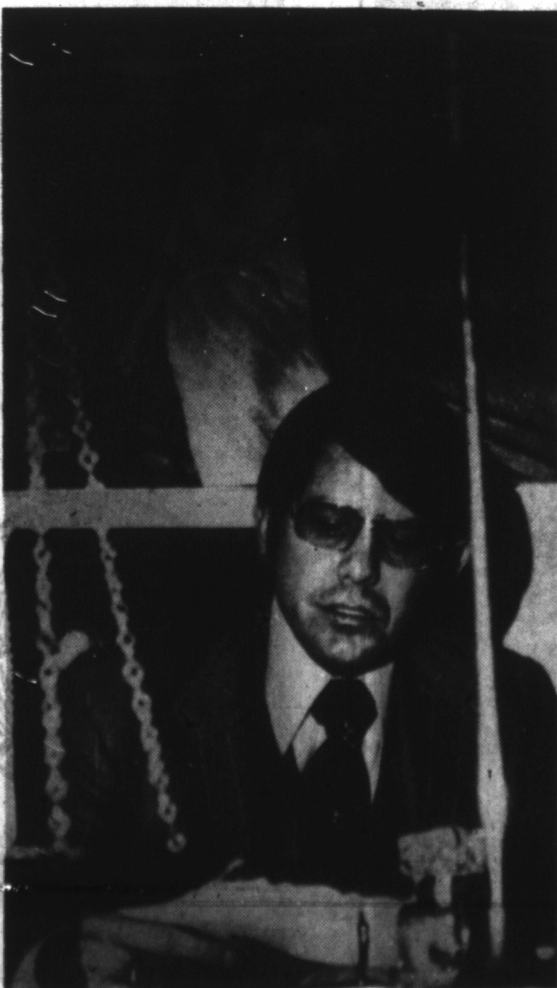
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And best wishes on your future as a
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Arkansas Baptist State Convention
Charles H. Ashcraft, Executive Secretary

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine
J. Everett Sneed, Editor

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Sarah Rouse, Chairman of the Division of Humanities, Mississippi College, led periods of Bible study during the retreat.



Laura Prevost of Meadville led group singing and presented special music during the weekend. She also led a conference on good grooming.



Vickie Brasington of Richmond, Va. (center), led sessions on the role of the minister's wife. Mrs. Brasington's husband is area secretary for Western South America for the Foreign Mission Board.

Young Ministers' Wives Retreat

By Barbara Taylor

Fashionable, physically fit, well-groomed and budget-conscious—THAT'S how Mississippi young ministers' wives returned home from a recent retreat at Garaywa!

More than 125 young women attended the sixth annual retreat for those ministers' wives in the state who are 40 and under. During the weekend, subjects such as money management, good grooming, wardrobe planning and physical fitness were discussed.

In addition to these special interest conferences, other emphases included bible study led by Sarah Rouse of Clinton, special music presented by Laura (Mrs. David) Prevost of Meadville, and sessions on the role of a minister's wife led by Vickie (Mrs. Bryan) Brasington of Richmond, Virginia.

A visual presentation of their recent trip to the Orient was given by Sue Tatum of Yazoo City and Marjean Patterson, WMU Executive Secretary for Mississippi.

And interesting feature during the meeting was a panel presentation by several laywomen giving thoughts on what each of them expected from their pastor's wife.



Participating on the panel of laywomen giving their opinions of the "ideal pastor's wife" were Mrs. Lucian Hill of Clinton, Sue Tatum of Yazoo City, and Mrs. Alex McKeigney of Jackson. Miss Tatum, Corporate Secretary for Mississippi Chemical Corporation, led a conference on budget planning and money management.

Inspiration, fun and sharing with fellow Christians make the Young Ministers' Wives Retreat an annual occasion for many young women in Missis-

siippi. This event is sponsored and provided by Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

Mississippi WMU Nears 100

(Continued from page 1)

Sunbeams, Girls' Auxiliary, Young Woman's Auxiliary and WMS promoted — for now there were Mission Friends, Girls in Action, Acteens, Baptist Young Woman, and Baptist Women as the organizations of Woman's Missionary Union.

The tasks which WMU has are these: teach missions, engage in mission action and direct evangelism, support missions, and provide and interpret in-

formation regarding the work of the church and denomination. To accomplish this work, Mississippi WMU involves the laywomen in the 11 districts throughout the state. Two women from each district, the director and the associate director, along with four general officers comprise the Executive Board of Mississippi WMU. Under the direction of the State WMU president, the Executive Board plans, directs, and evaluates the program of work.

The present state WMU president is Mrs. Robert Smira of Jackson. The state WMU staff employees are: Marjean Patterson, executive secretary-treasurer; Ethel McKeithen, Baptist Women director; Frances Shaw, Baptist Young Women director; Marilyn Hopkins, Acteens director; Waudine Storey, Mission Friends and Girls in Action director; Fran Pickett, camp manager/financial secretary; Mrs. Katie Ainsworth, receptionist; Mrs. Shirley Fortenberry, office secretary.

From Gambrell To Kelly, Work Advances

(Continued from page 2)

Baptists up to his time, however, and the strain was too much. He requested retirement before the debts were all eliminated.

D. A. McCall was named to succeed Gunter. He called for a program that would pay off the debts remaining and that was aimed at an expanded program. During his tenure the title of the office was changed from corresponding secretary to executive secretary. Also added to the board staff a full-time worker with black Baptists and a Baptist Student Union secretary.

The celebration of being debt-free finally was held at First Baptist Church, Jackson on Dec. 12, 1944. Under such optimistic conditions the construction of a new Baptist Building and the employment of a state music director and a state Brotherhood director.

Before plans could get under way for the erection of a new building, however, one already built became available. It was the Mississippi Building, the property of the state and located across Mississippi Street from the state capitol. Baptists bought it as Convention Board headquarters for \$110,000. It served the board until July of 1968.

In 1948 charges and counter charges concerning the administration of the office of executive secretary of the Convention Board began to surface, and a committee was appointed by the convention to study the business affairs of the convention and make recommendations to the Convention Board for a more efficient and larger work. Expressions of confidence were adopted concerning McCall and his work, but he resigned on Feb. 28, 1950 to become pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Chicago.

On March 7 Chester L. Quarles was elected executive secretary. And 1950 was not only a new decade for Mississippi Baptists but the beginning of an era of progress and expansion as well.

Quarles had an interest in lay leadership. Many of the presidents of the convention during his tenure were laymen. These included Purser Hewitt, newspaper editor; Owen Cooper, industrial executive; M. F. Rayburn, businessman; Russell Bush Jr., dentist; and Claude Townsend, merchant. Throughout January of 1951 Quarles conducted a series of one-day leadership conferences and laymen's rallies. These conferences were concerned with world missions, the church in action, stewardship, and evangelism.

During Quarles' term two Gulf Coast

assembly grounds were purchased, both at Pass Christian. They were Kit-ti-wake Assembly and Gulfshore. Both were destroyed by Hurricane Camille; but during their last year of operation, 1969, short two weeks of the season, the total attendance was 13,000.

The old Baptist Building was becoming crowded, and the convention gave the Convention Board the authority to take care of providing a new one. Property was bought on the corner of Mississippi and North President streets for \$103,000. A new four-story building was constructed at a cost of \$1,100,000, and the old building was sold back to the state for \$120,000.

Secretary Quarles rejoiced in the opening of the new building on July 2, 1968, then died four days later while visiting Indian ruins in Peru.

In the wake of the shock following

this sudden death, Mississippi Baptists sought an acting executive secretary for the Convention Board and turned to W. Douglas Hudgins, who had been pastor of First Church, Jackson, for 22 years and was chairman of the Executive Committee of the board. He had also been chairman of the building committee for the new Baptist Building. In February of 1969 he was persuaded to accept the position as secretary on a permanent basis with A. L. Nelson, the board's comptroller, being named treasurer.

Hudgins retired in 1973 and was succeeded by the present secretary-treasurer, Earl Kelly. Kelly promptly initiated a "Decade of Advance," which is now in its third year. The "Decade" began with the establishment of ambitious, long-range goals and determine the actions necessary to reach them.

Brotherhood Department Plans RA Pioneer Meet

Mississippi's first Royal Ambassador Pioneer Conference will take place March 18-19, 1977 at the Jackson Hilton.

The two-day conference, designed for Pioneer Royal Ambassadors (grades 7-12), will focus on the theme "Wake Up to Your World," according to Paul Harrell, director of the state Brotherhood Department.

Featured speaker for the event will be actor Tom Lester, best known for his role as "Eb" on the TV series "Green Acres." Lester, a native of Laurel, Miss., currently spends a major portion of his time speaking and sharing his testimony at Christian-oriented conferences and meetings.

A special breakfast on Saturday, March 19, has been planned for older Pioneer Royal Ambassadors (ages 15-17) and their counselors. Special guest for the breakfast will be Johnny Woitt of Pascagoula, Mississippi's High School "Coach of the Year."

Byron Cutrer, a student at New Orleans Seminary, will conduct the musical activities for the conference. Along with his studies at seminary, Cutrer also serves the First Baptist Church of Magnolia, Miss., as minister of music.

For information and registration contact the Brotherhood Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Phone: (601) 354-3704.

Summer Missions Committee



These people make up the BSU student summer missions committee. They interview the applicants who wish to serve as summer missionaries through the state BSU. Forty-nine students are being appointed to home and foreign fields for service this coming summer. Clockwise from left: Bruce Morgan; Ole Miss; Janie Boykin, USM; Jerry Merriman, associate. Student Work; Cornell Daughtry, BSU Director, Miss. Delta Jr. College; Velma Soape, BSU Director, Southwest Jr. College; Joe Daniel, Miss. State; Dennis McCall, State BSU President, MSU; Renelda Pharr, Blue Mountain; Don Dent, MC.

The RADIO-TELEVISION COMMISSION of the SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

EXTENDS ITS WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BAPTIST RECORD ON THIS OCCASION OF ITS 100th ANNIVERSARY

We depend on its pages each week as we seek to communicate our ministry to the Baptists of Mississippi

THE HUMAN DIMENSION

HATTIESBURG CATV TU 0700PM
MERIDIAN WTKO CH 11 SU 0630PM
UNIVERSITY 5116 SU 1200N
ALSO WE 0700PM
SU 0200PM

THE BAPTIST HOUR

BROOKHAVEN WCHJ 1470 K SU 0130PM
CANTON WNGO 1370 K SU 0700AM
CLINTON WHJT SU 0600PM
COLUMBIA WCJU 1450 K SU 0900AM
GREENVILLE WJPR 1330 K SU 0800AM
GREENWOOD WSWG 099.1M SU 0830AM
GRENADA WJAG 1400 K SU 0615PM
HATTIESBURG WFOR 1400 K SU 0930PM
JACKSON WJFR TU 0600PM
LAUREL WNSL 1260 K SU 0630AM
MC COMB WAPF 0980 K SU 1230PM
ALSO SA 0930AM

COUNTRY CROSSROADS

ABERDEEN WMPA 105.5M SU 1100AM
BATESVILLE WBLE 1290 K SU 1030AM
BILOXI WMTI 0570 K SU 1200N
CLARKSDALE WROX 1450 K MO 0540AM
CLINTON WHJT SA 0630AM
COLUMBUS WJW 1230.1M SU 0630PM
CORINTH WCHA AL SU 0630PM

NIGHTSONG

AMORY WAFM SU 1030PM
CLINTON WHJT SU 0845PM
HATTIESBURG WHER 103.7M 1005PM
HOUSTON WCPC 092.3M MO 1040PM
ALSO FR 1040PM

JOT

JACKSON WLBT CH 03 TH 1000AM
STARKVILLE CATV SA 0430PM
CATV SU 1050AM

POWERLINE

BILOXI WLOX 1490 K SU 0600AM
BILOXI WJMD 093.7M SU 0530AM
BROOKHAVEN WJBT 1340 K FR 0930PM
CLINTON WHJT SU 0600AM
COLUMBUS WDDT 0900 K SU 0930AM
GREENVILLE WROA 1390 K SU 1200N
GULFPORT AL SU **
HATTIESBURG WFOR 1400 K SA 1130PM
HATTIESBURG WXXX 1310 K SA 0630AM
AL SU 1030

SOULSEARCHERS

CLINTON WHJT MO 0930PM
LAUREL WNSL 100.3M SU 1200N
MC COMB WMTI 105.7M SU 0100PM
NATCHEZ WNAT 1450 K SA 0730PM
AL SU SA 0600AM
WEST POINT WROB 1450 K SA 1200PM

"MASTERCONTROL"

ABERDEEN WMPA 1240 K SU 0730PM
BATESVILLE WBLE 1290 K TU 1000AM
BROOKHAVEN WJMD 1340 K SA 0530PM
CLINTON WHJT FR 0830AM
COLUMBIA WJW 095.3M SU 0530PM
COLUMBIA WFFF 1360 K SA 0930AM
COLUMBIA WFFF 096.7M SA 0930AM
COLUMBIA WJW 103.1M SU 1000AM
GULFPORT WSCM 1240 K SU 0515AM
GULFPORT WROA 1390 K SU 0500AM
GULFPORT WROA 107.1M SA 0830AM
HATTIESBURG WFOR 1400 K SA 0830AM
HATTIESBURG WSLT 0930 K SU 0900AM
JACKSON WJL 1340 K SU 0700PM
LAUREL WQMA 1520 K SU 1015AM
MARKS WAPF 0980 K SA 0900AM
MC COMB WHOC 1490 K SU 0530PM
PHILADELPHIA WCPA 1260 K SU 1030AM
RIPLEY WCBH 0640 K SU 0400PM
UNIVERSITY WROB 1450 K SU 0400PM
WEST POINT WJW 1370 K SU 1200PM
WINONA

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Names In The News

Rex Vancey has accepted the call to be pastor of Saltillo Church in Saltillo. He has pastored churches for eight years and has also served in fulltime evangelism, preaching over 130 revivals in five states. He is a graduate of Blue Mountain College and New Orleans Seminary. He is married to the former Eilon Paeur of Ripley, and has two children.

Johnny White has been ordained to the gospel ministry by Parkway Church, Jackson. A graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, he is employed by the Godley Baptist Church, Godley, Texas, while attending Southwestern Seminary. He is married to Patricia Robertson and they have one son.

Mr. and Mrs. Steven P. Hicks, Baptist representatives to Mexico, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Thirty-eighth Avenue Baptist Church, 419 North 38th Ave., Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401). Mr. and Mrs. Michael (Mike) C. Murphy, missionaries to Guatemala, have arrived at language school (address: Instituto de Lengua, Espanol, Apartado 10240, San Jose, Costa Rica). Before they were appointed in 1976, he was pastor of Sunflower (Miss.) Baptist Church.

Sarah Golding, Church Training director for Lee Association, earned two Church Training Leadership Diplomas during the church year 1975-76, one in the area of General Officers and a second in the area of Children's Leadership. Her name was omitted from a recent listing of persons in Mississippi who earned Church Training Leadership Diplomas during the past church year.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Long, missionaries to Belgium, may be addressed at Rue J. Hoton, 17, 1200 Brussels, Belgium.



First Church, Biloxi, honored Mose Dangerfield and Mrs. Dangerfield, January 16, with a reception. Dangerfield, who served the church as Minister of Education for six years, has joined the Sunday School Department, MBCB. A proclamation was read concerning the effectiveness of his ministry. The church presented the Dangerfields with an Amana Computerized Microwave Oven.

C. B. Hamlet, chaplain of Forrest General Hospital, attended January 10 and 11 a conference on "living with a life-threatening illness," at the University of Iowa. The conference was under the direction of Orville E. Kelly, a cancer patient and founder of Make Today Count, and was jointly sponsored by Make Today Count, Inc., University of Iowa College of Medicine, Southeastern Community College of Burlington, Iowa, and the American Cancer Society.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan M. Panter, missionaries to Togo, have arrived at language school (address: 3 Allie de L'Etoile, 37300 Joue-Les-Tours, France). He was born in Pascagoula. The former Libby Wallace, she was born in Jackson.

Robert Howard Scott, of Jackson, an agent for the Penn Mutual Insurance Co., has been licensed to the Gospel ministry by Calvary Church, Jackson. Joe H. Tuten, pastor. Scott is the pastor of Children's Church at Calvary and also a senior at Mississippi College. He is a native of Newark, N. J., and is married to the former Carol Jean Eltschlager of Bridgeville, Penn. They have three children. Scott attended Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Penn., for two years.



Leon Bedsole, minister of music at First Church, Biloxi, was recently named State Coordinator of the Music Alumni Fellowship of New Orleans Seminary. This is his second year to serve in this particular capacity. Bedsole has also been active in church music activities in Mississippi, including service in the State Music Council.

Frank Pistello of McComb, has been approved to receive Church Pastoral Aid by the Home Mission Board. Persons receiving CPA are listed among the Home Mission Board's missionaries. Pistello, a native of St. Louis, Mo., will pastor a new congregation in Straitsburg, Pa. He has been pastor at Holmesville Church in McComb.

Grady Cothen, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., will be the featured speaker for Clarke County Associational Night at First Church, Quitman, on February 15, at 7 p.m.

Helen and Clayton Bond, missionaries to Togo, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 135 Lakeview Drive, Sugar Land, Tex. 77478). Before they were appointed, he was pastor of South Columbia (Miss.) Church.

Peter McLeod, minister of First Church, Waco, Texas, was guest lecturer for the Staley Distinguished Christian Scholar Lectureship at Mississippi College Jan. 31-Feb. 2. McLeod opened the lectureship series with an address on "How to Handle What Life Brings" during chapel ceremonies at 10 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 31. A native of Schotts, Scotland, McLeod's articles and sermons have appeared in various Baptist publications and his sermons are recorded for national distribution. He is the creator and producer of a radio talk program for young people recognized by the Southern Baptist Convention.



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Ralph Hall and Mrs. Hall announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, on January 16 at Mercy Hospital, Vicksburg. She weighed six pounds, 11 ounces, and was named Melodye Elizabeth. Hall, a senior at Mississippi College, is associate pastor and minister of youth at Calvary Church, Vicksburg.

Ralph A. Magee is retiring, after more than 25 years as assistant treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va. He has seen the board grow from a missionary force of about 800 to its present 2700. "The total budget when I came was about \$8 million and this year we will have over \$53 million," he explained. He went to the board in 1951, having previously worked for the Federal Reserve Bank for 18 years. Everett Deane is the board treasurer.

Albert Wilkerson has moved to First Church, Southaven, as minister of youth, from Van Vleet Church where he served as interim pastor. A fellowship and pouting were given in his honor. Born in Coldwater, Wilkerson graduated from Clarke College. He has pastored churches in Panola County, Kemper County, and Marshall County. In May he and his wife, the former Jeanette King of Sardis, will graduate from Blue Mountain College. The Wilkersons have one son, Greg, four. Jimmy Rose is pastor, and Jerry McCormick is music director at First, Southaven.



Ronny Oswalt was ordained to the ministry January 16, by Blythe Creek Church, Mathiston. Marvin Bibbs, pastor of Mathiston Church, brought the charge to the preacher and James Drane, associational director of missions.

Don Nerren, pastor of Macedonia Church, Brookhaven, has been selected to appear in the second edition of Who's Who in Religion. Nerren is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Nerren of Tupelo. He was ordained by the Harisburg church of that city. He is married to the former Linda Sue Cauthen. They have two children.



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Barry G. Allen, was recently promoted to the position of assistant to the executive secretary of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He had served as business manager of the K.B.C. since July, 1975, after four years as assistant business manager. Upon graduating from high school in Grenada, Miss., he attended University of Mississippi where he received the Bachelor of Business Administration degree. He then earned the Master of Divinity degree from Southern Seminary. He now resides in Louisville, Kentucky. He is the son of Mrs. E. W. Nichols (Mavis) of Jackson, Miss. and the late Braswell Allen, automobile dealer in Grenada until his death.

Tommy and Diane Winders, Tupelo, well-known evangelists, were special guests at Colonial Heights Church, Jackson, Feb. 6. They sing in both morning worship services, 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. The pastor is Len Turner.

Tommy Parker has accepted the pastorate of Rocky Springs Church, Choctaw County, Alabama. He was ordained a few weeks ago at Corinth Church, Heidelberg, Miss. Edd Holoman, pastor. His wife Mary, three sons, and a daughter, have moved with him to Rock Springs.



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G. Patrick Robinson has accepted the call to First Church of Greenwood as assistant pastor. Robinson is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary with Bachelor of Divinity and Master of Religious Education degrees. He served Eastview Church, Rockford, Illinois, as pastor where he was active in the Illinois Baptist Convention. Seven years on the Board of Directors there, he was chairman of the Sunday School Committee and Church Development Committee. He also served on the Executive Committee, Salary and Reorganization Committee, and the Building Committee for the new state office building. He served Florida Baptist Convention as its consultant in the Evangelism Department in schools of lay evangelism. The Robinsons have three children. Larry Robinson is pastor of the Greenwood church.

Archie Herring became pastor of First Church, Unadilla, Georgia, on January 30. While for the past five years he was pastor of Bethsaida Church, Dublin, Ga., the church added 135 new members. Herring during that time served the Laurens County Baptist Association in different jobs, including those of moderator, VBS director, and chairman of evangelism. A Mississippian, he is a graduate of William Carey College. His parents are members of Rawls Springs Church, Hattiesburg.

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Mike Davis of Crystal Springs has accepted the position of associate pastor of youth at Sixth Street Church, Alexander City, Alabama. The son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Howard of Crystal Springs, he recently received the Master of Divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary.

Kenny Garner has been called as pastor of Tiplersville Church. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Garner of Brunswick, Georgia, he is married to the former Patsy Merritt, also of Georgia. The Garners have two children, Melissa and Jason. At present Garner is enrolled in the Th.M. program at Mid-America Seminary, Memphis.

Kenneth Sumrall, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Sumrall, of Baxterville, was licensed to preach the Gospel by Baxterville Church (Lamar). A former student of Lumberton High School, he is currently being enrolled in Seminary Extension. He is a former professional wrestler, having performed in cities across the state. He has resigned from wrestling to dedicate his life to the preaching of God's Word. He has preached in churches in south Mississippi and has given his testimony at the associational youth rally. He is available for pulp supply, youth meetings/rallies, etc. He may be reached by writing to Route 4, Lumberton, Miss. Bob Goolsby is the Baxterville pastor.



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The Baptist Children's Village

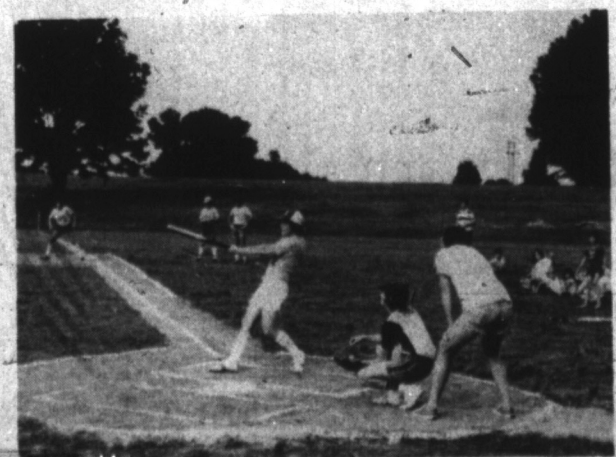
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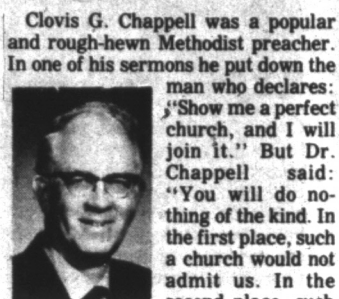
PAUL N. NUNNERY, Superintendent
The Baptist Children's Village
P. O. Box 11308
Jackson, Mississippi 39213



A WALK IN THE WOODS—a familiar scene on our country-life campus in Tate County

Sunday School Lesson: International For February 13

Power To Forgive Sin

By Wm. J. Falls
Mark 2:1-12; Luke 7:36-50

Clovis G. Chappell was a popular and rough-hewn Methodist preacher. In one of his sermons he put down the man who declares: "Show me a perfect church, and I will join it." But Dr. Chappell said: "You will do nothing of the kind. In the first place, such a church would not admit us. In the second place, such a church would be a tremendous embarrassment to us. In the third place, such a church would cease at once to be perfect when we joined it." Many people have the wrong idea about the church. As Dr. Chappell put it: "The church should be the society of the forgiven and the forgiving." Christians are nearly always going through one experience or the other.

The Lesson Explained

A Sinner More
Gracious Than Simon
(vv. 36-39)

Although some Pharisees had been critical of Jesus and his disciples, Simon invited Jesus to dinner. As a member of the strict and orthodox party in Judaism, he may have been impressed with Jesus' teachings and his deeds and wanted to know him better. From what Jesus said in verses 44-46, however, we can be sure he was not the honor guest at the meal.

Soon after the guests reclined in their places along the table, a woman of bad reputation, possibly a prostitute, began to wash Jesus' feet with her tears and wipe them with her long hair. Then she kissed her feet and rubbed them with ointment from an alabaster flask. It was a strange and touching drama. Of course, the woman was not a guest; probably only men had been invited. She came in quietly from the street and with great feeling showed her humility and devotion.

When Jesus did not rebuke the woman, Simon — man of the world — thought to himself: "This Jesus is not really a prophet. If he were, he would have sensed what kind of woman this is and objected to her attention." He probably felt superior to Jesus then.

A Parable With
One Right Answer
(vv. 40-43)

Aware of what Simon was thinking

(he knew how Pharisees thought), Jesus turned to him and told a brief parable. A moneylender had been carrying two men on his books for some time, perhaps, and when he called for payment neither could respond. One debt was 500; the other only 50. But neither could pay, and the moneylender just cancelled both debts! When Jesus asked, "Which one would love more?" Simon began cautiously, "I suppose," but really there was only one answer. Perhaps he was cautious because he did not know how Jesus might apply the parable. Jesus commended his answer.

A Woman Forgiven
Without A Word
(vv. 44-50)

But Simon still needed to know what the parable meant. So Jesus made him look at the woman while he contrasted her behavior with Simon's. The Pharisee had not been a cordial host; he provided no water to wash dusty feet or oil for the head as a gesture of

honor. Nor had he greeted Jesus with a kiss. But the sinful woman, whom Simon despised, had done all three — to Jesus' feet! She surpassed the "righteous" Pharisee. It is difficult to trace cause and effect in verse 47, but in light of Jesus' later statement of forgiveness, we could assume that the woman had offered her adoration in a spirit of deep contrition. Because she was forgiven much, she showed much love. Feeling little need of forgiveness, Simon showed little love for Jesus.

All the while, the woman said nothing, but her actions were eloquent enough, and Jesus said, "Thy sins are forgiven." Her faith encounter with God's grace in Christ opened her way into the Father's family. Relationships were healed; she could go in peace. Simon's other guests resented both Jesus' generous attitude toward the woman and his assuming God's role in forgiveness. They, too, needed what Jesus could give, but they were unwilling to repent.

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For February 13

The Demoniac — A Fragmented Self

By Bill Duncan
Long Beach First
Luke 8:26-39

The sudden appearance of a panting psychopath must have scared the disciples nearly to death. Each of the Synoptic Gospels gives us a graphic description of the person we have come to know as Legion. We picture him as a naked, wide-eyed character with broken chains dangling from his wrists and ankles, wallowing at the feet of Jesus, waiting to be left alone.

Today modern psychology and psychiatry have named persons like Legion with terms such as paranoia, schizophrenia, manic-depressive, and the like. The medical description is mental illness and nervous breakdown.

When we reflect upon Legion, and recognize in him some of our own tendencies toward personality disorganization, we see how Jesus can help. Legion was the end result of what the

power of evil can do to any of us. Evil exists because the Devil is trying to destroy something good. Legion was possessed; he had been taken over by disintegrating forces.

Is there any hope for a person who knows that a civil war is going on in his life? He may be well dressed and welcomed into the finest circles of friends. The fragmented person comes in many different styles. However, the end result of sin is slavery and death.

The truth is that Jesus saw men in their pathetic need, in their weakness, their sickness, and their sin. He demonstrated His purpose to redeem, to deliver and to restore man in the grace of God, whenever any would turn to him. He did this by showing the power and authority only God would exercise.

Man's inward disposition is warped. Inside every man is a twisted nature. The grain of the wood in any man's soul is crooked. Put the man under pressure and break him open: the crookedness will show. Man is not straight and can never straighten himself out, but God is able and God is willing to do this for man by His grace through His Son.

Life has led me to believe that Satan

Retired Pastor,
H. Moore, Dies

Funeral services for Herman Russell Moore were conducted Jan. 22, from Woolmarket Baptist Church.

Moore, 59, a retired Baptist minister and a resident of Rt. 1, Box 645, Biloxi, died Thursday, Jan. 20, at the Biloxi Veterans Administration Hospital.

Born in Ripley, he attended the University of Mississippi and was a graduate of Clarke College. He was a veteran of World War II, serving as tank commander in the 19th Armored Division under General George Patton. He was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals.

Moore served as pastor of Fairview Church in Booneville, Woolmarket Church in this state and as pastor of churches in Tennessee and Alabama.

He was named most outstanding citizen of Woolmarket in 1965.

He is survived by his wife, Agnes Yancey Moore of Woolmarket; three sons, Gary Russell Moore of Woolmarket, Rickey Moore of Pass Christian and Mike Moore of Jacksonville, Fla.; one daughter, Cathy Sherrell Johnson of Saucier; two brothers, three sisters, and six grandchildren.

Devotional

The First Principle
Of Reconciliation

By James Porch, Pastor, Northside, Clinton

When Peter first met Cornelius he confessed, "God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean" (Acts 10:28b). During the same conversation Peter declared, "I am convinced beyond any doubt that God pays no attention to a man's skin" (Acts 10:34 "Cotton Patch Version").

Both announcements tell us that once Peter did not know how God viewed all people; and also, Peter was aware that a change had taken place in his own life as to how he viewed people. Moreover, both admissions complement each other to declare what God had been doing in Peter's life — He had been making known to the fisherman that He sees all people as equal.

But what means had God been using to teach the impulsive one? Very simply, Peter had been affected by his daily contact with Jesus. Beginning with his lakeside introduction to Jesus, inquisitive Peter was early made aware that he was in the presence of an unusual teacher who possessed genuine concern for people. Here, Simon was exposed to humanity as never before. He saw Jesus healing, caring, affirming and forgiving people. He could not help but be affected by the manner through which Jesus related to other humans and gave them new meaning and new value for living.

Later in a post-resurrection encounter between Jesus and the disciples, Peter was challenged to declare his love. The fisherman seemed quite annoyed as Jesus pressed the question. Yet, he rose to the point of self-honesty and declared that his life had not demonstrated the quality of love. However, there was no condemnation from the lips of Jesus; instead, Jesus affirmed him for his personal integrity. Jesus still saw the potential in Peter for real love.

It is in the Pentecost experience that one finds the first proof that Christ's love and acceptance of all people was beginning to take root in Peter. In sermonic fashion Peter proclaimed the gospel as restricted to no group or race, and in fact, a message open to all.

During the days immediately following, Peter was the focal personality of the church. He engaged in an active ministry to people closely resembling Jesus' own service. Peter literally worked the work of the Christ. One notes here evidence of his birth of great concern for all people.

However, it is in meeting with Cornelius that the authentic reason that enabled Peter to accept, face to face, a person different from himself is revealed. God in the person of Jesus Christ had showed him that all people are equal and that He is the same God for all people.

We begin to become reconciled and open to receive all persons as equal when we are willing to allow God to show us that He is no respecter of persons. Only then, can the walls that separate us begin to crumble. Reconciliation to all persons is a process that is sometimes painful. But once a person can receive all people, he drops his fears and experiences true human and Christ-like freedom.

we are many." The admission of need does not come easy for any of us. We can understand that because we ourselves often feel that we are more than one person. There is a person in us who aspires to high and holy living. I have had people say to me, "I was not myself." We may have become possessed by some passion such as hate, fear, lust, greed, selfishness, and under the power that is not our real selves we possess some tendency to act against the highest and best within us. When that tendency gets out of control we become unbalanced or even insane.

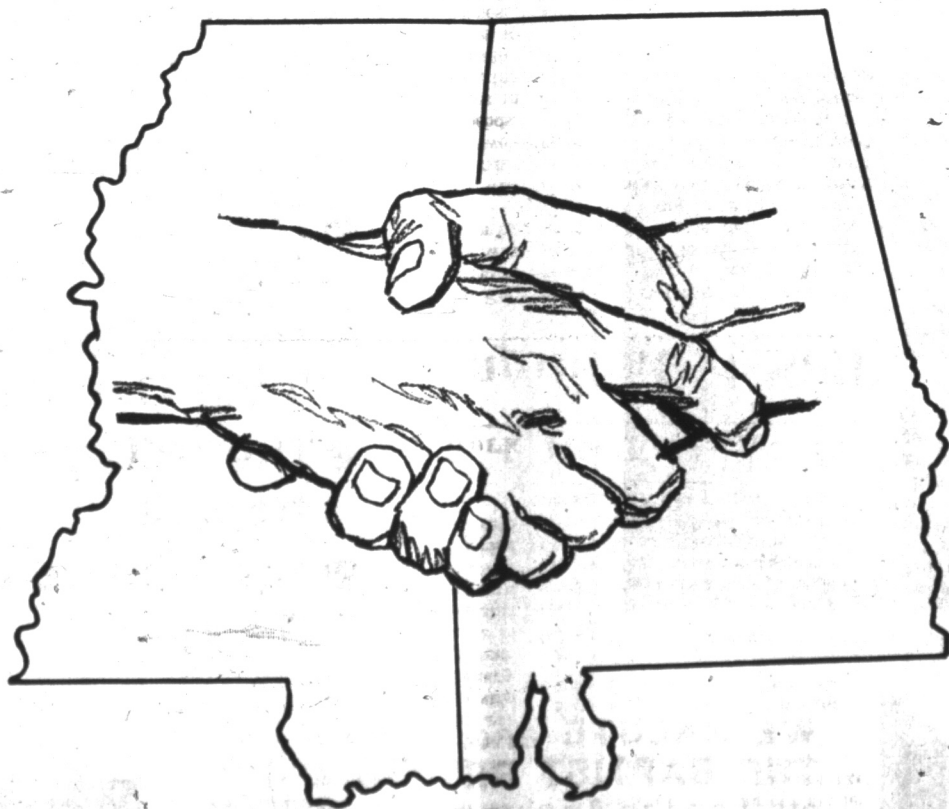
Legion cried to Jesus, "Torment me not." It is disturbing to change. When a mentally disturbed man came to Christ, Christ disturbed him still more. He makes demands that are painful to meet. He demands new discipline and changes in our ways. We

may resent Him for interfering. But as we respond to God, he becomes our friend.

To the fragmented man, He says, "Trust me. Put yourself in my hands. Let me have power over you." The man told Jesus his name. He was willing to confide in Christ, to put before Christ his life. We may call it confession or opening our hearts to God. The very moment the man put himself in the hands of Christ, the evil which dwelt within him lost its power and was driven out.

Finally, Luke tells us that they found the man "clothed and in his right mind." His way of life became "sensible." He began to live according to the principles of wisdom and truth. This is the "whole life" into which Christ leads all who commit their ways into His way.

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